

## Arab League Council meets today

The Arab League Council is expected to meet today at the highest level in Tunis to discuss the situation in the Middle East and to restore or establish diplomatic relations with Israel, the Jordanian News Agency said. The council, which is the highest authority of the Arab League, has invited the Arab League member states to attend the meeting. The extraordinary meeting was held in Tunis after Israel said Ivory Coast had decided to resume diplomatic relations with Israel. Ivory Coast, along with other African states, severed relations with the Jewish state after the 1967 Middle East war. Spain announced on New Year's Day that it was planning to establish diplomatic relations with Israel later this year.

# Jordan Times

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## Arabsat 'partially functioning'

PARIS (R) — The Arabsat system, the Arab World's first satellite communications venture, is partially functioning but is limited by a shortage of ground stations, a spokeswoman for the French state Aerospace group said Friday. She said the two Arabsat satellites, launched in February and June 1985, were now working well despite initial technical problems with the first satellite, but that only 13 of the 22 Arab countries in the Arabsat group were making use of them. Ground stations to receive the satellite signals were only operating in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Djibouti, Jordan, Kuwait and Tunisia, although other countries were able to make use of the facilities, she said. The satellites had so far mainly been used, well below their capacity, for some television exchanges in the region.

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## Syria reportedly deploys advanced Soviet T-80 tanks

KUWAIT (AP) — A Kuwait newspaper reported on Friday that Syria has acquired 250 Soviet T-80 tanks, which it said, were among the most sophisticated in the Soviet arsenal that few Warsaw Pact countries had received. The newspaper, Al Rai Al Aam, quoting Eastern bloc diplomats in Damascus, said the tanks were of a "highly developed" generation of the T-80 and excelled over tanks in the possession of Israel. The tanks reached Syria last week and more than 100 of them were deployed over the past two days in advanced positions opposite the Israeli-held Golan Heights, the paper said. "Syria is the only friend of the Soviet Union that acquired that generation of ultra-sophisticated T-80 tanks, which most of the Warsaw Pact countries do not yet have," the paper quoted the unidentified diplomats as saying.

## Few Soviet Jews come to Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Only 30 per cent of Soviet Jews allowed to leave the Soviet Union in 1985 immigrated to Israel, according to ministry of immigration and Jewish Agency sources. They said that of the 1,140 Soviet Jews granted emigration visas to come to Israel last year only 348 elected to come to Israel. The others used Vienna, where they arrive by train from the Soviet Union, as a transit station, planning to seek homes in Europe or the United States. During December 1985, only 10 of the 98 Jews who left the Soviet Union came to Israel.

## Carrington, Spanish premier discuss NATO membership

MADRID (R) — NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington met Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez on Friday for talks on the Socialist government's plans to keep Spain in the alliance despite heavy domestic opposition. Lord Carrington had talks with Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez, and Defence Minister Narciso Serra since his arrival on Thursday. Spanish officials said he was briefed on a referendum on NATO membership to be held in March. Mr. Fernandez Ordóñez explained the government's plan to keep Spain in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation without its integration into the alliance's military structure, frozen by Mr. Gonzalez when he took office in 1982, the officials said.

## Bangladesh urges OIC revitalisation

DHAKA (AP) — Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury called on Friday for the revitalisation of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to enable it to deal more effectively with the Gulf war and other problems. "We shall be discussing the ways and means to make the OIC more effective," Mr. Humayun Rasheed told the official BSS news agency before leaving for Morocco to attend the four-day OIC foreign ministers' conference in Fez, starting Jan. 6.

# Gemayel describes summit with Assad as 'very successful'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel said on Friday his secret talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on the Lebanese militia peace pact were successful.

"What I am interested in is ending the state of war in all senses of the word, not merely in writing," Mr. Gemayel told reporters upon his return to Lebanon. "The visit was very successful."

Mr. Gemayel added that his two days of talks covered all aspects of the peace agreement formally ending the country's decade-long civil war.

"Ending the state of war lies in careful consideration of the solution which lays down the basis of a future Lebanon," he said, adding that peace would be achieved.

Mr. Gemayel and Mr. Assad had five hours of talks on Friday on the Syrian-backed peace pact signed by Lebanon's main militia chiefs.

"They discussed the practical ways and means of carrying out the peace plan," said a source close to Mr. Gemayel. The meeting in closed session was "very positive," he told Reuters.

Sources close to Mr. Gemayel told the AP the two leaders agreed to meet again in Damascus next Thursday because Mr. Gemayel "needed more time for consultations on the agreement" with Lebanese political leaders.

his white Mercedes at the time.

Minutes later, "Lebanese Forces" militia intelligence chief Assad Shafatari was attacked nearby with anti-tank grenades. He escaped unhurt.

The attacks sparked the worst clashes in east Beirut for five years, killing at least 12 people. The clashes also raised tension between Mr. Gemayel's supporters and the "Lebanese Forces," one of the signatories to the militia pact.

Beirut's Al Amal newspaper, controlled by the "Lebanese Forces," warned the mostly Christian Falangist Party not to obstruct the militia peace pact in secret while supporting it verbally.

"The fate of the summit depends on Mr. Gemayel's endorsement of the militia (militia) agreement," it said on Friday.

The "Lebanese Forces" broke away from the Falangist Party last March and its leader, Elie Hobeika, signed the Syrian-brokered peace agreement along with Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite militia leader Nabih Berri last Saturday.

In an interview with the London-based weekly Al Majalla, Mr. Berri said the civil war was not yet over. "The war is going on, we hope the peace accord will wipe out many obstacles but we believe its primary opponent is president Gemayel," he said.

# Lebanon considers appeal to U.N. against Israeli attacks

## Katyusha attacks alarm Israeli leaders

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The Lebanese government on Friday was considering lodging a complaint against Israel in the United Nations Security Council for Israel's military retaliatory actions against villages in South Lebanon.

The move stemmed from Israel's expulsion of the population of the village of Kounin on Monday. Israeli and SLA troops stormed the villages in the Israeli-occupied "security belt" after four SLA militiamen were slain by resistance men.

Israel, meanwhile, threatened military action against resistance men in South Lebanon after rocket attacks on its largest northern settlement of Kiryat Shmona.

Lebanese security sources told Reuters Israeli troops and SLA militiamen shelled the South Lebanon port of Sidon on Thursday, killing a woman and wounding

two men. The Katyusha rocket that hit Kiryat Shmona, was the first rocket to hit the centre of the settlement of 20,000 since Palestinian shelling forced thousands to flee in 1981.

Rafael Eitan, a right-wing parliament member who as a former chief of staff led Israeli forces invading Lebanon in June 1982, told army radio that Israeli troops should return to Lebanon and widen the Israeli-designated "security belt" if the attacks persisted.

He recommended that Israel occupy a 35-kilometre strip in Lebanon reaching to the Litani River. "Then the rockets wouldn't reach our northern settlements," he said.

Gen. Antoine Lahd, commander of the SLA, visited the northern Israeli settlement of Metulla on Thursday night and also called for an extended "security zone," Israeli newspapers reported.

Four other rockets exploded just in the vicinity, but the only damage reported was in Kiryat Shmona.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres said "the government will take appropriate measures to deal with the return of Katyusha rockets."

Uri Lubrani, in charge of liaison with the SLA and the "security zone," warned Israel would not tolerate further attacks.

"What will happen is that every attack will be met with a response, according to what is required," Lubrani said.

The rocket and artillery exchanges coincided with increased resistance activity in South Lebanon and tension linked to the attacks at Rome and Vienna airports and Syria's deployment of anti-aircraft missiles in east Lebanon.

# Reagan says Soviets should end 'malevolent activities' in C. America

LOS ANGELES (R) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said in an interview released by the White House that the Soviet Union should end its "malevolent activities" in Central America if it wanted better relations with the United States.

Mr. Reagan told the Mexican news agency Noticias de Mexico that Moscow resorted to "subversion and support for terrorism" after realising it would be unable to establish communism by force in the region.

Mr. Reagan, who was to hold talks with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid in the border town of Mexicali on Friday, has long accused Moscow of backing and supplying arms to leftist insurgencies in Central America.

Release of the written interview, which was given some time ago, came a day after an unprecedented exchange of New Year's messages between Mr. Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Both leaders called for improved relations.

A Soviet commentator on Thursday indirectly contradicted Mr. Reagan's assertion in the message that his space defence initiative (SDI) anti-missile defence did not pose a threat to anyone.

In a commentary issued by the official news agency TASS, military analyst Vladimir Bogachev also said that the planned system might turn on its creators like a "space frankenstein."

Without mentioning Mr. Reagan by name, Bogachev said supporters of the system, known popularly as "Star Wars," argued that it would "threaten no one." The same phrase was used by Mr. Reagan in his televised New Year message.

In their New Year messages, Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev pledged to work for peace and understanding in 1986 but the development of missile defence systems remained a deeply dividing issue.

U.S. officials said they hoped the exchange of pre-recorded five-minute messages would help "to maintain the momentum of dialogue" begun at the Geneva summit last November when Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev met for the first time.

In their messages, broadcast simultaneously in the two nations, both leaders expressed hope for better relations, continuing what has become known as "the spirit of Geneva."

But their deep division over

"Star Wars" surfaced in both messages.

Mr. Gorbachev, who is bitterly opposed to the U.S. plan, told the American people that it was "senseless to seek greater security for oneself through new types of weapons."

Mr. Gorbachev added: "At present every new step in the arms race increases the danger and the risk for both sides, and for all humankind."

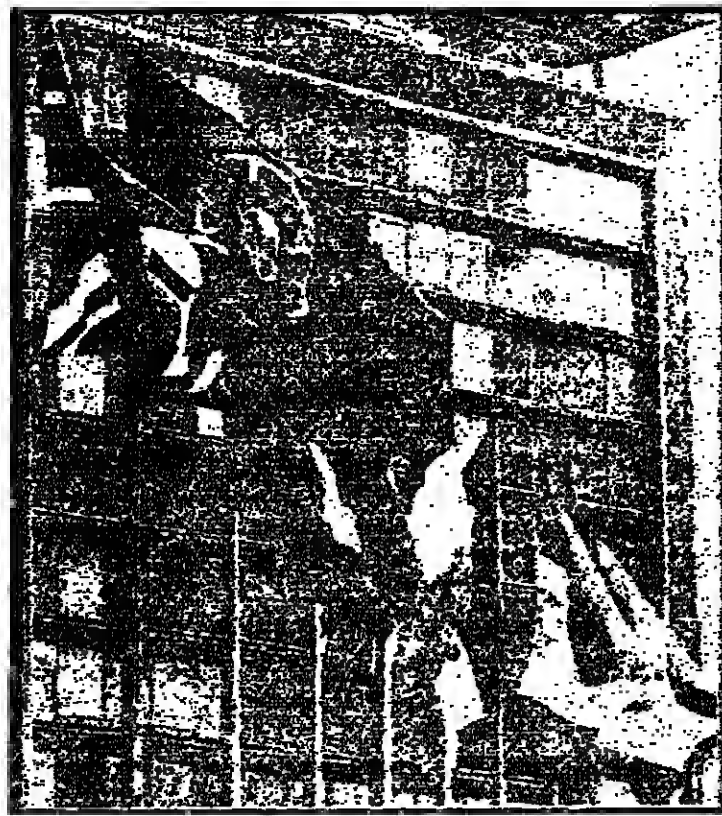
But Mr. Reagan talked about his long-held hope that SDI one day would make nuclear weapons obsolete and offer each country a defensive system that threatened no one.

"If these technologies become a reality, it is my dream to one day free us all from the threat of nuclear destruction," Mr. Reagan told the Soviet people.

Just last week, the United States carried out an SDI-related test at its Nevada nuclear site which Moscow denounced as a violation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty limiting development of missile defence systems.

Mr. Reagan, who has long sought the opportunity to address the

(Continued on page 3)



The Portuguese flag (second left) and the Spanish flag (right) fly in front of the European Community (EC) headquarters in Brussels after Portugal and Spain formally joined the 10-nation EC on New Year's Day.

# Spain, Portugal given EC responsibilities

BRUSSELS (R) — The new Spanish and Portuguese members of the European Community (EC) Commission were awarded their responsibilities on Friday at the body's first meeting since Spain and Portugal joined the EC on New Year's Day.

Commission President Jacques Delors used the occasion to rationalise and streamline existing duties in the expanded 17-man team, which runs the EC on a day-to-day basis.

Diplomats said that the decision to grant administration of the often controversial EC fishing policy to the Portuguese commissioner, 52-year-old Antonio Cardoso E. Cunha, was likely to raise some eyebrows in Madrid.

Spain and Portugal have often fallen out over fishing rights, particularly in the sensitive sardine sector.

Manuel Marin, 36, one of the two Spanish commissioners, was awarded responsibility for EC social affairs, education, and training. The other Spanish commissioner, 44-year-old Abel Matutes, was made responsible for credit, investments and financial instruments with special responsibility for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Irish Commissioner Peter Sutherland, who previously was responsible for both social affairs and employment, retained his most important portfolio, competition, and was put in charge of the commission's often-strained relations with the European Parliament.

Diplomats said Agriculture Commissioner Frans Andriessen would shed no tears about losing fishing to Mr. Marin.

# Israeli taxi driver shot dead

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An Israeli taxi driver was shot dead overnight in a second similar attack in two straight days and police were considering the possibility that Palestinians were responsible, newspapers reported Friday.

The daily Yediot Achronot said 40-year-old Yaacov Papiashvili was shot in the head in his cab on the outskirts of the town of Lod, 20 kilometres southeast of Tel Aviv.

Yediot quoted police as saying they were investigating the possibility that the killing, along with a similar attack the night before, were the work of anti-Israeli resistance activists.

On Wednesday night, another cab driver in the same area said a passenger tried to shoot him, but the attacker's gun failed to fire. When he struggled with his assailant, the cab driver was knifed in the back.

According to the Israeli army, 16 Israelis were killed in attacks in and around the occupied territories in 1985, and seven were killed in 1984.

In another incident, a small bomb exploded in a garbage can Friday during rush hour on a busy street in a Tel Aviv suburb, slightly wounding one person, a police spokeswoman said.

The spokeswoman said the blast occurred at 8:40 a.m. (0640 GMT) in Ramat Gan, south of Tel Aviv, scattering debris into the road. A street vendor was scratched in the face but not hospitalized, she said.

Police suspected the explosion was a Palestinian attack, but did not rule out criminal motives. Israel Radio said 10 Arabs in the area were detained for questioning.

Another bomb exploded outside an Israeli army command post in northern Jerusalem on New Year's Day causing no injuries. The command post is a regional headquarters with control over the occupied West Bank.

# Italy may seek to arrest Abu Nidal

ROME (Agencies) — Italian authorities have decided to seek an international arrest warrant for Abu Nidal, a Libya-supported Palestinian renegade, in connection with the Dec. 27 attack at a Rome airport, newspapers reported on Friday.

In Naples, a U.S. naval task force led by the aircraft carrier Coral Sea left for an undisclosed Mediterranean destination after a holiday port call, an American military spokesman said.

The Italian cabinet met to discuss proposed laws that would place stricter controls on foreigners in Italy following the twin attacks that killed 19 people at the Rome and Vienna airports one week ago.

Israel has accused Libya of harbouring Abu Nidal and has said his group has carried out 33 operations during the past year, killing 90 people and injuring 350.

The attack last Friday at the Rome airport, which killed 16 people and injured more than 70, stunned Italians and prompted fresh calls for stricter control of foreigners in the country.

The proposed new laws, which would have to be approved by both houses of parliament, had been earlier proposed after the hijacking last October of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro.

Lt. Col. John Marchi, spokesman for the U.S. naval support activity in Naples, confirmed the departure of the Coral Sea task force Friday morning. But he brushed aside Italian newspaper reports that all leaves were cancelled for U.S. military personnel in Italy.

The newspapers said all U.S. bases and their personnel have been placed on a semi-alert for a possible American military action against Libya.

Rome's Il Messaggero and Milan's Corriere Della Sera quoted unidentified judicial sources as saying that investigating Judge Domenico Sica has decided to seek an international warrant for the arrest of Abu Nidal, who has been named by several governments as the mastermind of the airport attacks in Rome and Vienna.

Mr. Sica has been questioning the man accused as the lone survivor of four gunmen who mounted the Rome airport attack with hand grenades and blazing automatic weapons. The attack killed 16 people, including three gunmen, and wounded about 80 others.

The suspect, Mohammad Sarham, has told Mr. Sica that his group was directed by Abu Nidal, who is believed to be ailing and hiding out in Libya.

Mr. Sica returned Tuesday from a trip to Vienna, where he conferred with investigators in the Austrian capital about the nearly simultaneous airport attack there which killed two bystanders and one of three gunmen, and injured 39.

Mr. Sica was quoted by the Rome daily Il Tempo on Thursday as saying investigators believed the twin actions were planned to take place together, as claimed by Sarham and the two surviving suspects in Vienna.

Sarham, who has identified himself and the Vienna gunmen as fighters led by Abu Nidal, has maintained throughout interrogation that there were eight people directly involved in the two actions, four in Vienna and four in Rome.

Police, working on a tip by Sarham, on Friday discovered a hand-grenade from a bag abandoned at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport, police said.

Mr. Sica is to travel to Belgium to question two guerrilla suspects and a Belgian resident held after police discovered an arms cache, Belgian radio said.

The French language station RTBF said in its midday broadcast that Mr. Sica was to arrive in Belgium on Friday or early Saturday in an attempt to discover whether links existed between the Belgian arrests and last week's attack.

A Belgian Justice Ministry spokesman said the three men, whose identity is still unknown, were remanded in custody for one

(Continued on page 3)

# Libyans demonstrate against possible U.S.-Israeli attack

CAIRO (Agencies) — Libyans staged massive anti-American demonstrations for the second day running in all Libyan towns on Friday, vowing to defend the country against a feared attack by the United States and Israel, the state-run Tripoli Radio reported.

"We are ready to face any attack by the American imperialists and Zionists, we are ready to fight and join suicide squads," the demonstrators chanted, said the radio.

The radio said the demonstrations started on Thursday and were continuing Friday. Mass meetings throughout the country Thursday night sent support cables to Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi declaring the people "are in the trenches and the frontline ready to confront the Zionist death train and the American imperialist threats against the Arab Libyan people," the radio added.

Friday's continuing demonstrations followed a fresh overnight appeal by the United States for international sanctions against Libya in the wake of last week's attacks at the Rome and Vienna airports.

An American television reported Thursday that the United States was "very seriously" considering taking military action against Libya in retaliation for the attacks at Rome and Vienna that killed 19 people.

ABC News, citing unidentified U.S. officials and military sources, said options under consideration by Washington ranged from supporting an Israeli strike to launching its own bombing raid on selected targets in Libya.

CBS News, meanwhile, quoted unidentified informed sources as saying U.S. forces in the Mediterranean sea are being built up in case President Reagan decides on a retaliatory strike.

Pentagon spokeswoman Major Eugenia Thornton declined to comment on the reports, adding

that it was contrary to U.S. policy to comment on troop strength.

Earlier, President Reagan scolded Col. Qadhafi's threat to hit at Americans at home if Israel or the United States retaliated for guerrilla attacks (See page 2).

Washington has accused Libya of harbouring Palestinian guerrilla leader Abu Nidal, the suspected "mastermind of the airport attacks, whose victims included five Americans."

On Wednesday, U.S. officials said the Pentagon, on Mr. Reagan's orders, was preparing a set of options for possible retaliation, which administration sources said included unspecified measures against Libya.

Also under consideration is sending the U.S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea to conduct naval exercises off Libya's Gulf of Sidra, where U.S. planes shot down two Libyan fighters four years ago, ABC said. The carrier left Naples for an undisclosed destination on Friday.

Both CBS and ABC television networks said the U.S. administration was weighing the potential risks of a strike, including the possibility that Col. Qadhafi will hold hostage the 1,500 to 2,000 Americans living in the country.

Another risk of an air strike is that the first of Libya's new Soviet-made long-range SA-5 anti-aircraft missiles may be ready for use in two weeks, ABC said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted on Friday as saying Israel had ample proof that Libya supported terrorists and called for sanctions against it.

In an interview the Rome daily La Repubblica, Shamir repeated the theme of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' address to parliament on Wednesday.

Asked if Israel had concrete evidence that Libya supported terrorists, Shamir was quoted as saying: "We have such a quantity of proof to guarantee against any

doubt."

Shamir said recent declarations by Col. Qadhafi had reinforced his image as "one of the world leaders of terrorism."

He repeated the Israeli call for economic sanctions against Libya by countries that buy Libyan oil. "I think everybody should shut the tap of money with which Qadhafi feeds terrorism," La Repubblica quoted Shamir as saying.

He said Israel reserved the right to strike against "terrorists" whenever they might be and that Israel would strike "without the minimum hesitation" against Abu Nidal.

A top Palestinian source in Cairo was quoted on Wednesday as saying that Israel had planned to attack PLO bases in North Yemen and Sudan in November.

The authoritative daily Al Gomhouria quoted the unnamed source as saying that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was in Baghdad at the time for a meeting of his Central Committee when he learned that 16 Israeli fighter planes had taken off.

It said Mr. Arafat contacted three unnamed Arab airports to confirm the Israeli aerial activity and said the discovery of the Israeli plan forced Israel to call off the mission.

The PLO's representative in Khartoum said last month that Palestinian forces there had been placed on maximum alert in expectation of an attack.

In New York, police, searched the Libyan mission to the United Nations on Thursday after a man saying he represented a militant Jewish group telephoned local media and said an explosive device had been planted in the building.

Police said no bomb was found and no one was evacuated from the mission, situated in a building directly across from the U.N. headquarters.

The caller said: "The Jewish (Continued on page 3)

## INSIDE

- \* Egypt to resume Taba talks if Israel accepts arbitration, page 2
- \* Arab-Americans briefed on Jordan's stand on Mideast conflict, page 3
- \* Political mechanisms to boost Mediterranean cooperation, page 4
- \* New programmes on Channel 6, page 5
- \* Wilander enters Masters semi-final, page 6
- \* Turkey expects big boost in trade with Iran, page 7
- \* New Year violence claims 25 lives in S. Africa, page 8







## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Government representatives appointed

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has decided to appoint Dr. Khaldoun Al-Faher, Mr. Kamel Jreisat, Mr. Ziyad Innab and Mr. Subhain Al-Dar as representatives of the government at the Jordanian Chamber of Commerce board of directors. The cabinet has also decided to appoint Mr. Bassam Qanish as representative of Jordan to the board of directors of the Arab Maritime Academy based in Beirut, Lebanon.

## Cabinet approves economic agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved the minutes of the eighth meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Ministerial Committee which was held in Amman during the period Dec. 19-22, 1985. It also approved a protocol in connection with the agreement of trade exchange and economic cooperation concluded between Jordan and Iraq. The cabinet has approved the programme of economic cooperation between Jordan and the Arab Republic of Yemen, and the financial agreement between Jordan and the Republic of Germany for participation in the financing of consultation studies and services for a number of projects.

## CSC to take no applications in January

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) will temporarily stop accepting applications by job-seeking citizens to allow for administrative purposes, according to a statement issued by CSC Director Ali Khreis. He said that the temporary measure will last for the whole of January, pending the issuance of government orders to fill vacant posts in government departments. Another statement will be issued in February inviting applicants to submit applications, Mr. Khreis added. More than 15,000 applications were received by CSC in 1985.

## Health card expiry date extended

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health has decided to extend the validity of health insurance cards which expired at the end of 1985 to the beginning of February. The decision was taken because the ministry has not distributed new cards to all beneficiaries, either because of not receiving lists of names of public servants from some ministries and government departments or because these organisations have yet to receive new cards for their employees.

## Two killed in land dispute

IRBID (J.T.) — Hussein Mohammad Mustafa, 25, and Mansour Ali, 40, were killed after shooting each other in a brawl which occurred Thursday in Ham town in Irbid after a dispute over land. The two people killed were taken to Princess Basma Hospital while the prosecutor general began his investigations of the incident.

## Indian labour smuggling operation halted

CAIRO (J.T.) — The Egyptian police authorities have captured the leader of an international Indian-run gang based in Cairo for receiving Indians and sending them to work in Jordan after forging their residence papers and entrance visas, according to a report published in the local Arab daily newspaper Al-Dustour. The leader provided these illegal services for 1500 Indian rupees to be paid in India and U.S. \$1500 to be paid in Cairo. The Jordanian authorities have returned 10 Indians from Amman airport to Cairo after discovering their case and 10 others living in Irbid have been released by the gang leader, while they were about to leave for Amman.

## Italy may seek to arrest Abu Nidal

(Continued from page 1)

month during a brief court appearance Friday morning.

The two Arabs arrived on a flight from Athens on Saturday — the day after the Rome and Vienna massacres — and were taken to a large arms cache in the eastern town of Hasselt.

One of the men was spotted on the airport police computer, as having trained at a camp in Lebanon, and the Belgian crack anti-terrorist squad "Dyane" was alerted.

The Arabs, who were carrying passports from two different Middle East countries, were met by an owner of a videotape in the town of Hasselt, 65 kilometres east of Brussels.

The shopowner had been convicted previously of carrying arms illegally.

The group was watched until Monday night when police swooped and discovered eight kilos of explosives in the shop, a further 11 kilos of TNT, a wide range of weapons and three forged Arab passports.

Belgian police have not released the name of the videotape owner, nor those of the Arabs.

RTBF reported sources close to the investigation as saying that both Arabs had been travelling on false passports. It quoted the sources as saying their identity was still unclear but that one appeared to be Lebanese.

The Moroccan government has denied that any Moroccan citizens

## Libyans demonstrate against possible attack

(Continued from page 1)

defence organisation claims total responsibility for the explosive device left at the Libyan mission, which is due to go off at 8:20 p.m. (0120 GMT).

A senior Egyptian diplomat said in a report published on Friday that Egypt has urged Israel to refrain from any violent reaction to the airport attacks that could obstruct Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

It was the third such call this week from Egypt.

The Al-Ahram newspaper quoted Mohammed Bassiouny, Egypt's charge d'affaires in Israel, as saying, "Egypt has asked Israel to exercise self-restraint and not to react to recent events in a way that could obstruct the peace process in the region."

Al-Ahram said Mr. Bassiouny spoke before returning to his post Thursday night. He had been in Cairo for consultations for several days and met with President Hosni Mubarak.

On Wednesday, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali told reporters the airport attacks "were aimed at obstructing and halting the peace process, and Israeli retaliation would, in fact, help achieve that aim."

Echoing the same position, an editorial in Al-Ahram on Friday said any Israeli action would "only lead to an increase of violence and counter-violence."

An Israeli spokesman said on Thursday Israel has sent a letter to

the United Nations Security Council in which it linked the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to the airport attacks.

The spokesman quoted the letter as saying "Palestinian terrorism" originated with the PLO.

The PLO has denied carrying out the two attacks. Police in both European cities have linked the strikes to Abu Nidal.

At the United Nations, Libya on Friday denied any part in what it called the "deplorable blood outpourings" at the Rome and Vienna airports, which it said were being used by the United States and Israel as a pretext for aggression.

In a letter to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Al-Tureiki warned against the consequences of any aggression against his country and the "dangerous results which that would

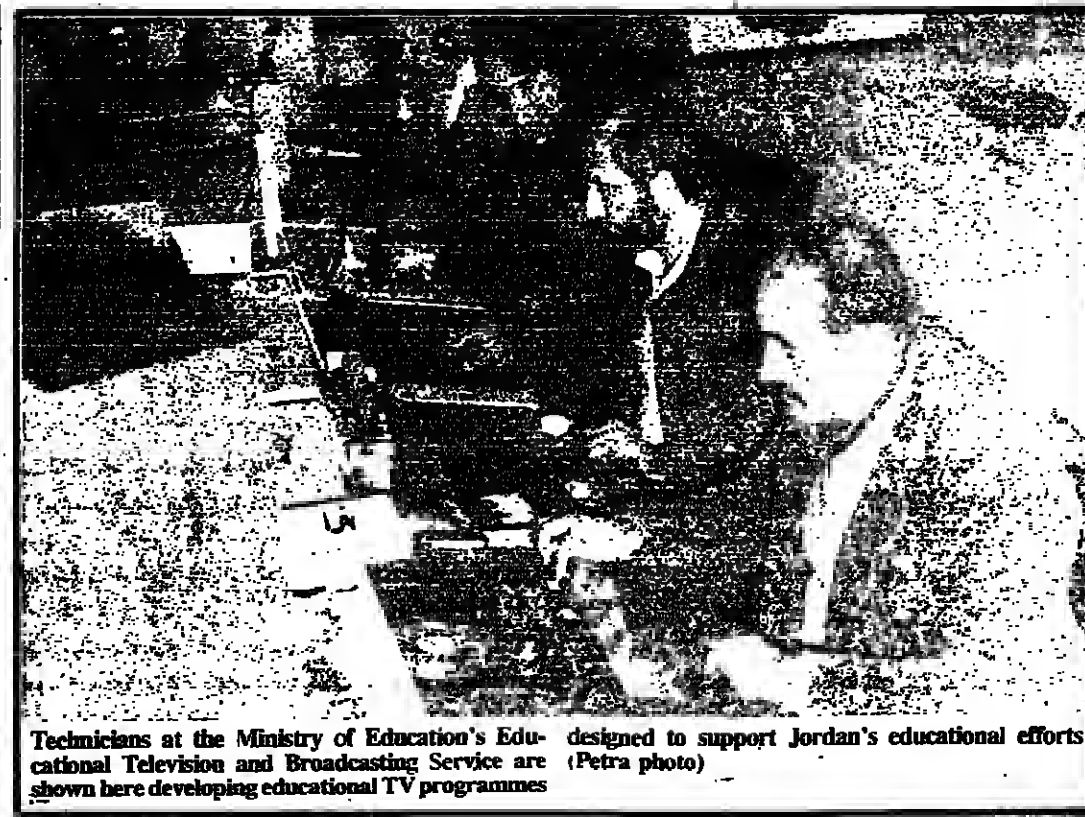
## Reagan criticises Soviet role

(Continued from page 1)

Soviet people on television but had been rebuffed by Moscow, told them the United States was a peace-loving nation.

"I told Mr. Gorbachev (in Geneva) of the American people's deep desire for peace and that the American people do not wish the Soviet people any harm," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev called the exchange of messages "a hopeful sign of change... a meaningful symbol of our mutual willingness to go on moving toward each other."



Technicians at the Ministry of Education's Educational Television and Broadcasting Service are shown here developing educational TV programmes designed to support Jordan's educational efforts (Petra photo)

## Senate calls for reassessment of controversial electricity proposal

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) on Thursday sent a draft law on general electricity back to the legal committee for reassessment following a heated debate by several Senate members over the feasibility of such a provision.

The general electricity proposal was the only draft law which triggered a lengthy debate at Thursday's session, which was chaired by Senate Speaker Ahmad Al-Lawzi and attended by Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifai.

Eleven temporary and draft laws were endorsed during the session, including a controversial law regulating preaching in mosques and the issuance of fatawa (judgements related to Islamic affairs), as passed by the Senate by the Lower House.

Senator Khalil Salem, debating the general electricity law, suggested referring the draft law to a special committee comprising representatives from the government and members of both Houses to look into the law. There are certain articles that need to be re-formulated and discussions of the law should, therefore, be postponed, Dr. Salem told the lawmakers.

The legal committee rapporteur, Senator Ahmad Tar-

awneh, contended that Dr. Salem's remarks were not precise and that forming the committee in question was not necessary.

Mr. Tarawneh then suggested reading the draft law in full, and Senators who have any reservations over a certain article may comment on the spot.

Senator Mudar Badran supported Dr. Salem's objection and said the proposal would help to explain a number of ambiguous articles.

The Senate is entitled to discuss one draft law in full details, but if what is submitted is only a number of amendments to certain articles in the law, then discussions should only cover the amendments in question, as stipulated in the statute, Mr. Badran said, adding that the draft law should be discussed as a whole.

Senator Jum'a Hamad supported Mr. Badran's remarks over the issue of not distributing the draft law to the senators and backed Dr. Salem's suggestion of referring the law to the Senate Legal Committee for reassessment.

At this point, Senator Abdul Rahman Khalifeh charged that the committee did not tackle the draft law as a whole but discussed certain articles in it.

Senator Thoghan Hindawi said the committee's decision did not include a recommendation to endorse the draft law, and what was presented was only the amendment to some articles.

Mr. Hindawi stressed the illegality of sending the law back to the legal committee. "The Senate has the right to postpone discussion on the provision but cannot refer it to the committee," Mr. Hindawi pointed out.

In light of Mr. Hindawi's statement, Mr. Badran suggested referring Dr. Salem's remarks to the legal committee. Mr. Badran's proposal was backed by a number of senators and Senate Speaker

Lawzi said the draft could be sent back to the committee upon request from its rapporteur, the senate speaker or the government.

Senator Obeidat called on the speaker to call for sending the law back to the committee in order to end the debate. At that point, Mr. Rifai suggested referring the law to the legal committee for re-evaluation in light of Dr. Salem's reservations. "I order to avoid a vote, I suggest the law be sent back to the legal committee," said Mr. Rifai.

Senators then unanimously agreed to send the law to the legal committee.

On Thursday's session the Senate also endorsed a draft law regulating preaching in mosques as passed to it from the Lower House. The House had earlier endorsed the law with no debate and as formulated by the government.

The new law gives the Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs power to ban preaching or speeches in mosques if the preacher violates guidelines against attacks or provocations towards any person or institution.

According to the law, preachers who violate regulations will first be warned by written notices from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and in case of a second violation they will face imprisonment terms ranging from one week to one month and fines up to JD 100.

Another provision in the law calls for the formation of a Preaching and Guidance Council to be charged with laying down the framework and policy of preaching and guidance. Such a council will also be entrusted with "creating an atmosphere free of conflicts and divisions and chaos at mosques throughout the Kingdom."

The Senate also passed another ten draft laws pertaining to agriculture and loan agreements.

## Ministries begin study of safety on Desert Highway

AMMAN (J.T.) — Teams from the ministries of Interior and Transport are currently involved in preparing a detailed study on ensuring public safety along the Desert Highway linking Amman with Aqaba, according to a Ministry of Interior source quoted by the Al-Rai Arabic daily on Friday.

The paper also reported that Prime Minister Zaid Al-Rifai has set up a special ministerial committee to follow up the study.

According to the report, the study will re-examine the possibility of prohibiting foreign drivers (especially Koreans and Thais) employed by local and foreign companies from driving oil tanker trucks and lorries.

The study was necessitated by the numerous road accidents that

occurred along the highway recently, the report said. It added that foreign drivers involved in accidents were found to have been in possession of foreign licences and not qualified to drive heavy vehicles along such highways.

Meanwhile, a report in the local press said that one person was killed and another was injured along the Desert Highway in an accident involving oil tanker trucks with Saudi Arabian registration.

The report said that one of the trucks was driven by a Filipino national. Another accident near Karak caused the death of one person and the injury of another, involving a Jordanian truck and another bearing a licence plate from the United Arab Emirates.

## Khasho's 12th: a tribute to all Jordan

By Jean-Claude Elias  
Special to the Jordan Times

The outstanding event of the year 1985 in Jordan, His Majesty King Hussein's 50th birthday, gave Youssef Khasho the inspiration to write his 12th and most recent symphony, which he entitled "Hussein's Jordan."

Once the score was ready, the original idea was to have the composition interpreted and recorded by the Italian Television Orchestra (RAI) and to film the performance for JTV. Unfortunately, unexpected difficulties prevented Mr. Khasho from achieving this, and the symphony was finally performed by the 60-member Naples Orchestra, which has often been conducted by Mr. Khasho, and an audio-only recording had to be

accepted. This change forced Mr. Khasho to re-arrange the score in an extremely limited time.

The result was nevertheless impressive, reaffirming Youssef Khasho's excellence in symphonic composition. The 60-piece orchestra included flute, piccolo, oboe, 2 clarinets, bassoon, 2 horns, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones, timpani and strings.

The symphony begins with the newly orchestrated National Anthem. The first movement — andante/allegro — describes Jordan as a young and modern country living and working under the guidance of King Hussein. The second movement — adagio — depicts the difficult years in Jordan that followed First World War.

The third movement — allegro moderato — is about Jordan's

## Touqan stresses elements of Hussein peace plan in briefing of U.S. journalists

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of seven American journalists on a fact-finding tour in the Middle East left Jordan Friday after a three-day visit during which they met with a number of Jordanian officials and were briefed on Jordan's position towards the Palestine question by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Tayseer Touqan.

Ambassador Touqan stressed the need for achieving a just, comprehensive and durable peace through the convening of an international conference to be attended by all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the five permanent members at the United Nations' Security Council.

The journalists, representing several U.S. media organisations, were also briefed on Israel's settlement and expansionist policies aimed at evicting Palestinians from the occupied territories. Mr. Touqan reiterated the Kingdom's condemnation of all acts of terrorism, "regardless its source," and its rejection of some attempts to equate terrorism with national liberation movements.

Mr. Touqan called on the visiting journalists to convey "an honest and clear picture of what they saw and heard" during their visit to Jordan.

The group was scheduled to visit the occupied West Bank, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait on similar missions. They are

expected to return to Amman on Tuesday.

The 18-day tour is organised by the Michigan-based Arab-American Media Society, Inc. (AAMS), a non-profit, tax exempt cultural and educational multi-media organisation which was established in 1980 by a group of American and Arab-American media specialists, academics and professionals.

Among the AAMS goals are providing American news media representatives with first-hand knowledge about issues of importance in U.S.-Arab relations. According to a press release, the AAMS aims at reaching beyond the many negative stereotypes and prejudices about the Arab World and at uncovering the facts through participation in direct exchanges with government officials, news media personnel, business people, educators, and people of all walks of life.

The seven editors, publishers, news directors and correspondents are accompanied by

three members of the AAMS who are leading the tour. The media representatives were selected in a national competition as part of the AAMS's "National Media Fellowship Awards" programme. Award recipients were chosen by a review panel on the basis of their professional achievements, their openness, fair-mindedness, and the manner in which they would utilise this trip in furthering their professional media interests and goals.

According to the press release, although a large number of eligible candidates applied for the competition, only seven of the most outstanding candidates were selected for these awards.

The award recipients were Frank Joyce, news director and host at WDET-Public radio Michigan, Julie Wright, correspondent for the Dallas Morning News (Texas), Stan West, associate editor, Pacific News Service (California), Kevin Blackstone, staff writer for the Chicago Reporter (Illinois), Michael Moore, editor and publisher of the Michigan Voice (Michigan), Valerie Van Isler, international affairs journalist at Pacific Station WBAI (New York), Judith Gabriel, representative liaison, Cultural Exchange Committee for the Writers' Guild of America (California).

Accompanying the AAMS Chairman Dr. Sameer Abraham, AAMS Executive Director Warren David and AAMS Secretary Janice Terry.

## Health registration plan announced

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry will soon embark on a programme of issuing registration cards to all citizens entitling them to medical treatment at specific hospitals and medical centres.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh announced here Thursday.

Dr. Hamzeh said at a press conference that each citizen and members of his family will be assigned medical centres for treatment by Feb. 15, as part of the process of introducing a national

health care scheme benefiting all citizens of Jordan.

This procedure is adopted in all advanced nations and is bound to have beneficial effect on the country as a whole, the minister added.

The Ministry of Health already spends nearly JD 2.5 million each year on purchasing medicines and dispensing them to citizens treated at various government health centres, the minister pointed out.

He said by adopting the new measure the Health Ministry hopes to save JD 1 million because there will be no wastage of medicines dispensed on several occasions to citizens treated in more than one health centre or hospital.

In addition, he said, the Ministry of Health plans to enlist the help of a number of private doctors who will undergo a two-year training course at government hospitals for orientation on the procedures adopted by hospitals under the new system. After the

two year course these doctors will maintain close cooperation with the government health centres and hospitals, referring his patients to them for further treatment, and also receiving records about the health conditions of citizens visiting his private clinic, the minister explained.

The cards to be issued to the citizens will offer them the chance to receive treatment at specific health centres, but a citizen has the right to opt for any other area and health centre for treatment, simply by submitting a written application to that effect, the minister pointed out.

Poor and needy citizens who will be included in the national health scheme will be exempted from paying any fees for their treatment, the minister added.

He said that the ministry will soon announce the names and locations of centres where citizens can receive treatment in each governorate.









# Money, sex and greed prevail in new cycle

By J.H. Boteler

THE new programme is beginning to take a more concrete shape — not completely so, but getting there — for this week only a few abandoned my usual format and instead will take the week on a more serious note. So, we start with:

**Saturday (tonight):**

As I stated above, not everything is entirely settled yet, and the comedy show for tonight is a prime example. It is hoped to be able to screen *Meet Your Language*, a light-hearted comic look at the world of adult English language classes for foreign students. However, and this is the tricky part, the last information that I had was that the tapes were late in arriving, and so we may have to struggle on for a few more weeks with *Matthew Barton in Mr. Your Move*, which will be OK just as he continues to get his come-appearance as he did last week, a case of the bitter bit. *Antomama* also continues from last cycle, but this is the final episode, entitled "Future Car". Although the automobile still holds sway in the present world, to an alarming degree, many believe that current trends, not least the fast dwindling supplies of oil, will ultimately sound the death knell for the mechanical horse. Such a one is Dr. Richard Michaels, a leading American social psychologist, who says: "We shall look back at the car as an antiquarian that lived for a short time in history and we shall wonder why it lived that way at all". He also states that the need for travel will be largely removed by the rapidly improving electronic communications and computer technology. (Exactly how these last two will enable a family to take off into the country-side for a quiet peaceful picnic I am unsure, but perhaps our brave new world of the future won't have any picnic sites either).

Feature films, (and Varieties), will continue their time-honoured role over Saturday night viewing but not, of course, tonight, when the mini-series, or bestseller, substitutes, as it tends to do at the beginning of each month. And the one for this weekend *Operation Julie* promises to be a real lulu. Back in the late seventies an enterprising group of young men and women, the ink still wet on their university degrees, decided to become self-made millionaires and started up a highly lucrative cottage industry, operating out of Wales (which of course explains why most of this programme was filmed in Yorkshire). Unfortunately the authorities, looking rather a bit like the enterprisers, did not see the enterprise. Not, as you may think, because the English government of the time was a Labour one, and committed to state nationalisation; not even, primarily, because the youthful tycoons were neglecting to pay any of the vast sums of income tax for which, in theory, they were liable. No, the principal problem was in the pro-

duct itself: smaller than a Smartie, though nearly as colourful, extremely more potent and considerably more profitable. It was what's known as the "heaven and hell" drug, lysergic acid, or LSD. They were churning it out by the bucket-load, and reaping its financial namesake by the sack. LSD was invented by a mild Swiss doctor who first discovered its properties rather unconvincingly whilst riding home on a bicycle. It was catalogued by Aldous Huxley championed by Timothy Leary and his Merry Franks, used in copious quantities on U.S. Marines by the Pentagon in "psychological experiments" and spawned a whole generation of rock music, including at least one of which inspired the title: "Lucky in the Sky with Diamonds," by the Beatles. It also caused many psychic disorders, retarded mentalities and eye disorders, helped fill up several beds in Western mental institutions, and caused a few poor souls to take one way flights out of tenth-storey windows; on at least one occasion it caused a young man to strangle his girlfriend, in the belief that she had turned into a monster and was about to eat him. This TV adaptation stars Colin Blakely, (star of "The Hangover Man"), as Detective Inspector Dick Lee, and has as its scriptwriter Gerry O'Hara, whose credits include "Bergerac" and "The Professionals" so it should be very good, if at times rather harrowing.

**Sunday**

Once again the comedy is a hangover from last year (I) but since it is the last episode of the excellent *Chance in a Million*, no-one should complain. The happy day draws near, but the local newspaper contrives to upset our hero Tom and his bride-to-be, Alison. Next up is a programme that promises to be highly controversial and light the blue touchpaper of many a heated argument. End of Empire charts the collapse of the British empire since the end of World War II. It concentrates on three main areas: Asia, Africa, and the Middle East — so called because the English, in their pride and conceit, regarded this part of the world as little more than a staging post en route to their major commercial centres of India and Malaya. Whilst I am a touch wary of the programme's claim that it depicts "the biggest political change in the world in the twentieth century," it should, if it is at all honest, show how shortsightedness, intransigence and misplaced political emphasis helped bring about one of the biggest and most consistent catalogues of diplomatic debacles on record. For instance, the programme claims to show how in nearly every instance England misguidedly feared the onslaught of Communism, often as not non-existent, whilst discounting the pressures of local nationalism, which was very real. The first programme in the series,

whilst giving a general overview of the whole, also shows how the beginning of the end came, not in Indian independence in 1947 but in Singapore in 1942, when the sinking of Two English battleships — dispatched in true Palmerstonian fashion — and the surrender of 130,000 British troops to a quarter as many Japanese destroyed the illusion of imperial invincibility. This was most immediately felt in India. Whether this series proves to be good or bad, I feel that, for myself at least, Monday mornings are going to be harder to face than usual.

**Monday**

Apart from *Bottle Boss*, the comedy series that I previewed last week, I am in a major dilemma over the new series that follows it. Is this going to be *Tender is the Night*, or is it going to be *Travelling Man*? We were promised

macho Bobby, his brother, alcoholic Sue Ellen, his sometimes wife, Pam, Miss Ellen, Bobby Barnes and the Poison Dwarf, in fact the whole vile, stinking, vicious, back-biting Ewing clan. If this is what being rich means, they can keep it.

**Tuesday**

This kicks off with more from *That's My Boy*, and then continues over the next four weeks with *A Married Man*. Anthony Hopkins stars as John Strickland who, at the time of the story, 1973, is 40 years old and a successful barrister. However he is not satisfied with the direction his life is taking and decides to become a Labour M.P. This causes himself and his wife Clara, played by Caren Madden, much heartache and cold-shouldering amongst their middle-class Tory friends. When he turns elsewhere for solace, for support and love, he finds himself cashed in a web of lies and tre-

vely on for the present, as do the few remaining episodes of *Connections* and *Vista*. (It should be the former this week). *Falcon Crest*, however, lost no time getting into its stride. Never having seen this before I did however think that I knew what to expect, but boy, was I wrong. They are even worse than the Wings and the off-heralded west coast earthquake will be doing as all a favour if this bunch of ne'er-do-wells are in any way true to life. One thing is very plain, and that is the previous series must have gone out in a hail of bullets. First there is Chase, in hospital in a coma and with a bullet in his brain. (He came out of the coma at the end of the episode, only to find that he's paralysed in the legs, so is not that much more forward). Then there is Richard, who started off by burying his wife Jacqueline, (gunshot victim), went on to explain that he was never going to be so unmanly as cry, and proceeded to destroy his office furniture. Then there is Julia who is in jail for shooting dead Carlo and — I think — Jacqueline. Julia's son Lance is married to Carlo's daughter Melissa. (NB: Julia and Carlo were having an affair). Lance hates Melissa, Melissa hates Lance, and everybody but simply everybody hates Angela, Julia's mother and matriarch of this happy wine-growing family, and most especially Richard who is publishing Julia's confession to murder in order to avenge his own mother's death in the house of Angela Channing. Finally there is Emma who has a fixed stare, a never changing bright monotone, (a difficult feat, but she achieves it), and one single

**TONIGHT**

*It's Your Move/Mind Your Language* ..... 8:30  
*Antomama* ..... 9:00  
*Varieties* ..... 9:30  
Mini-series: *Operation Julie* (Part 1) ..... 10:20

**SUNDAY**

*Chance in a Million* ..... 8:30  
*End of Empire* ..... 9:00  
Mini-series: *Operation Julie* (conclusion) ..... 10:20

**MONDAY**

*Bottle Boss* ..... 8:30  
*Tender is the Night/Travelling Man* ..... 9:00  
*Dallas* ..... 10:20

**TUESDAY**

*That's My Boy* ..... 8:30  
*A Married Man* ..... 9:00  
*The Equaliser* ..... 10:20

**WEDNESDAY**

*Three's Company* ..... 8:30  
*Connections* ..... 9:00  
*Falcon Crest* ..... 10:20

**THURSDAY**

*Emergency Room* ..... 8:30  
*Return to Eden* ..... 9:00  
Feature film: *Death on the Nile* ..... 10:20

**FRIDAY**

*Sara* ..... 8:30  
*The Far Pavilions* ..... 9:00  
*The Hunter* ..... 10:20

facial expression. She is either the most appallingly bad actress or is playing the part of a complete and utter homicidal maniac who is apt at any moment to produce a chain-saw. (How did that song go? "If you're going to San Francisco, you're going to meet some gentle people there...")

**Thursday**

This continues with *Emergency Room*, and that is followed by *Return to Eden*. I think, on balance, this is probably the best of the new cycles of sex, greed, power and money. For a start, it's the best photographed, with a richness and depth of colour not found in either *Dallas* or *Crest*. More importantly, however, the characters seem almost human. In fact, some of them actually seem to like each other. True, Jennie is going to do her best to out-JR JR himself, but Stephanie is a likeable sort, (as well as being very pleasing on the eye), and her hubby, suave Dr. Dan is extremely chubbable. Even son Denis, for all his wayward ways, has the family interests at heart. There are duplications of secretaries, evil English tycoons, and lots of family skeletons. The final scene last week, when Lomax swore revenge on the Harpers over his brother's grave, came straight out of *Hammer House of Horror*. Finally, the feature film this week has been chosen for all those of you who are feeling withdrawal symptoms over the lack of detectives. *Death on the Nile*, was made in 1978, has an impeccable cast, including: Bette Davis, Mia Farrow, Angela Lansbury, Jane Birkin, David Niven, George Kennedy, Simon MacCorkindale, Jon Finch, Maggie Smith, Olivia Hussey, Harry Andrews and Peter Ustinov as the great Monsieur Hercule Poirot himself.

**Friday**

Perforce I have yet to see the new series for this, so will briefly state that it has *Sara*, *The Far Pavilions*, (which, judging by the snippet shown on New Years Day, could just be the find of the season. At least one colleague of mine, fairly intelligent as far as journalists go, raves about it). And, to end up, there is *The Hunter*. Yes, indeed, so what happened to *The Brief*? I don't know. It was still there on New Years Eve; it was even there on New Years Day, showcased on the new cycle promotion programme, which also proves that it was technically acceptable and that episode one at least had arrived. But, after the *News at Ten* on Thursday night it had suddenly been replaced by something called *The Hunter*. Years may come, years may go, but JTV programming goes on for ever. Finally, it was said to see that apart from the holiday season claiming Sam Spiegel, the last night of 1985 claimed Rickie Nelson, thus proving that the worst year ever for aviation did not forget the rock star, its traditional victim. And you thought 1986 was going to be different.

## An outsider issues a state-of-the-art challenge to Fleet Street

By Joseph Lelyveld  
New York Times Service

LONDON — Eddie Shah works from an office about three miles from Fleet Street, the natural habitat of English newspapers.

He has never set foot in a Fleet Street newspaper, he says, and has never laid eyes on a Linotype machine, the outmoded hot-metal printing machine still in use on every national newspaper in Britain because of the inextinguishable resistance of most labour unions to the introduction of new technology. Yet, in a period of upheaval on Fleet Street, Mr. Shah's name comes up quickly in any conversation on the future of the industry in a nation that remains ravenous, despite television, for printed news and opinion, printed gossip and — in the popular tabloids — printed photos of bare-breasted women.

Mr. Shah, 41, broke into the business in the provinces as the publisher of a string of gateway papers. He may not be of the Fleet Street world, but he is the vanguard of the technological revolution that is finally looming.

Ten weeks from now, on March 4 or 5 according to present plans, the first editions of his new national tabloid called *Today* will roll off the presses at four satellite printing plants around England.

Aimed at youthful and upwardly mobile middle-class readers and produced from what was designed to be a state-of-the-art newsroom, it will be the first national daily in Britain to have dispensed entirely with Linotype machines and the trade unions whose members operated them.

Mr. Shah's *Today* will not only start with the technology, in common use in North America and much of continental Europe for more than a decade, that enables editors to set type by pushing a button on a video terminal. But it also aims to be one of the first major papers anywhere to dis-

pense with cut-and-paste layout operations; like the editing, the design and makeup of its pages will be handled on display terminals.

In addition, it will be the first British daily capable of producing and transmitting colour pages from its own plant, using the latest computerised equipment.

Starting from scratch with a reported \$30 million from outside investors and a staff of only 500 — compared with 6,500 on the slumping *Mirror* — Mr. Shah has run a detour around the union battles that much less ambitious efforts at technological innovation have provoked on Fleet Street.

He won a major confrontation two years ago with the printers' union, which placed his provincial papers under siege to force him to maintain a closed shop. He insists he is not anti-union — Today has signed an agreement with the ele-

ctricians union — but he rules out closed shops.

Unless his editorial product is a complete failure, Mr. Shah is likely to turn a larger profit in his first year than the whole of Fleet Street combined.

Last year, he pointed out in an interview, Britain's nine national dailies and eight Sunday papers had total revenues of close to \$2 billion and total profits of scarcely \$15 million; this year, he said, there probably would be higher revenues but a net loss.

If Mr. Shah proves that it is possible to break into the national competition from outside Fleet Street, he will inevitably have imitators. That prospect, plus the losses that some of the old mainstays are now suffering, lies behind the industry's current turmoil.

Control of three of the six highest circulation dailies — *The Mirror*, the *Daily Express* and the

*Daily Telegraph* — has changed hands in just over a year. The three papers together sell more than six million copies daily, but each is losing money, mainly, their owners contend, because of overstaffing.

Mr. Shah's challenge to Fleet Street — symbolised by his decision to situate his paper at the other end of town, near the West End in Piccadilly not far from the Tate Gallery — will go beyond technology.

A hulking figure who looks like a retired football linebacker going to fat, he means to be a new kind of publisher producing what will be, for Britain, a new kind of paper.

Fleet Street, like much of Britain, has suffered from elitism, he says. Publishers have used their papers to advance their views, regarding it as their right to tell readers what to think. There is no

need to wait till the next election to know that the *Mirror* will be the only paper to support the Labour Party, or that the *Telegraph* will stand, as always, with the Conservatives.

By contrast, *Today* will cast itself as an independent voice, reflecting the views of an independent readership.

Asked whom his paper would back in the next election, the shirt-sleeved publisher replied: "How can you know that three years ahead of time? Papers may make up their minds as far ahead as that, but people don't."

Mr. Shah was born in England. His mother was British; his father was of Iranian stock, by way of India. His full name is Selim Jehan Shah.

Important newspaper publishers frequently make their way to the House of Lords. Asked if he could see himself as Lord Shah, he



Eddie Shah at his printing plant said he did not believe that people who influence public opinion should accept titles from the government. "I wouldn't take it anyway," he said — International Herald Tribune.

## African famine caused by people, not drought

By Paul Raeburn  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The famine in Africa was caused by human activity, not by lack of rain, and emergency food aid is making the situation worse, two ecologists have concluded.

Piecemeal aid from developed countries has changed life in sub-Saharan Africa so dramatically that the land can no longer support the population, the researchers say.

The changes may even be altering the weather itself.

The core of the problem, according to Anthony Sinclair and John Fryxell of the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, is that too many people and too many cattle are living on land that can no longer support them, because it has been overgrazed and stripped of vegetation.

leave them where they are. It won't address that problem," Sinclair said recently in a telephone interview. "It will make it worse, because these people will move into new areas and alter the vegetation again, so the famine will spread."

Sinclair is quick to say that on humanitarian grounds there is no immediate alternative to sending food to the millions of starving African families, but warns that more must be done.

"The very first thing we have to address is to repair the vegetation," he said. "We've got to get the grasslands growing again. We've got to take the people off the land, take the pressure off the land."

Moving large numbers of people is a difficult political problem in the best of circumstances, and may be impossible given the political unrest in some of the drought-stricken countries of Af-

ica, in the broad belt known as the Sahel that stretches across the continent just south of the Sahara.

"We're not the right people to say how this should be done," Sinclair said. "We're not in the aid business. But that shouldn't stop us from mentioning problems."

Sinclair and Fryxell are specialists in the migration of wild animals in the Sahel.

In a recent paper titled "The Sahel of Africa: Ecology of a Disaster," Sinclair and Fryxell described how the wildebeest and the white-eared kob, two African antelopes, survive in large numbers by migrating during the rainy season to areas where short-lived, high-protein grasses briefly appear, and then returning in the dry season to areas where lower-quality vegetation grows year-round.

The migration strategy allows more animals to survive than would be possible if they were

confined to a single area year-round, and it also allows grasslands to recover during periods when the animals are away.

Many people living in the Sahel have traditionally followed a similar strategy, moving their cattle herds to different areas at different seasons, and thus avoiding overgrazing and permanent loss of grasslands.

That pattern began to disappear several decades ago, however, as Western countries began to send aid to Africa.

Wells were drilled in areas that were green with vegetation year-round. Communities developed around the wells, and medical and veterinary care became available. Much of this change was the result of aid from developed countries.

People who had migrated soon settled near the wells, and it wasn't long before difficulties arose, according to Sinclair and Fryxell.

Grazing animals no longer had access to high-protein grass during the rainy season. The land around the wells became overgrazed and ultimately denuded of vegetation, now that animals were feeding there constantly.

The improved medical care increased the population of humans and animals.

As the process accelerated, each periodic episode of less-than-average rainfall had more severe consequences. The famines of 1973 and 1984 were both preceded by reduced rainfall, but resulted in far more deaths than previous droughts, the researchers said.

While the lower rainfall might have been the trigger for the famine, the ultimate cause was settlement and overgrazing.

The overgrazing may be directly changing weather patterns, causing a decline in rainfall that could last for decades.

## Randa Habib's Corner

### A prayer for 1986

TODAY, as 1985 has ended and as 1986 has come on us, I have some wishes and hopes to air out and a prayer to say.

I wish that from now on there will never, ever be any hijacking or terrorist action of any sort. I hope that there would not be any innocent person in danger, that children would not have to fear anymore, that they will not have to die, to be burned in a plane or to be shot by a stray bullet.

I wish that girls will not be amputated because they just happened to be in an airport at the end of their holidays. I wish that people who feel that their rights are being denied, would make their cause be known to the world over by words and not by bombs.

I hope that roses be planted at the tip of the barrel of each gun.

I hope that factories of ammunitions, weapons, tanks, fighter-planes would all close down for lack of customers and that no land be taken by force, and no wars be fought.

I hope that people would care, that "friends" never be deceitful, that interest and money would not rule the world, and that love only will. I pray that all my hopes and wishes come true in 1986.

Happy New Year

## Iraqi art students prefer war realism to symbolism

By Tod Robberson  
Reuters

BAGHDAD — A soldier peers motionlessly through the scope of a rocket-propelled-grenade launcher, another is depicted reeling in agony as a bullet pierces his chest.

Nearby, several art students chat casually, apparently oblivious to the plaster-and-paper mache battlefield of art on display in the courtyard of the Iraqi Academy of Fine Arts.

"I don't encourage this type of art," says Ismail Fattah Al Turk, an Italian-educated professor at the academy and designer of the National Martyrs' Monument here.

"I teach differently. I teach them to be free in form as well as academic discipline," he explains. "But right now, they are concerned with the (Iran-Iraq) war. This is how they want to express themselves."

Turk says he chooses symbolism over realism in his own art, and proudly explains the meaning behind his martyrs monument.

It consists of two tulip-shaped, turquoise half-domes slightly offset from each other. At the base of one is a fountain, and at the base of the other is an Iraqi flag shaped as if it shrouds a standing man.

"The split in the domes symbolises the moment of death, the opening of heaven. The flag symbolises the spirit of the martyr, who died for his beliefs, in defence of his religion, his country, his family," Turk says.

He designed the monument in 1978, never anticipating the Gulf war which erupted in 1980 and which has led to hundreds of thousands of deaths on both sides.

President Saddam Hussein, who personally selected Turk's design and told him to spare no cost in its construction, has de-

clared the 45-metre-tall monument sacred ground, Turk says.

Only official guests are allowed to walk at the base of the domes. Following the example of Hussein when he unveiled it in 1983, visitors must remove their shoes.

Turk contrasts the monument with Tehran's martyrs monument, a fountain which spews blood-red water.

"I chose water instead of blood, because water is the symbol of life. I wish the world could come and compare these two monuments. It would say a lot about our different outlooks on war and life — our entire characters."

Turk says that although most of his students have been directly affected by the war — the males as soldiers and the females as daughters, sisters or cousins of soldiers — some have chosen forms of expression other than "war art."

He smiles at the mention of the few nude sculptures at the academy. "We like to do nudes. We like them but of course we don't use real models, only pictures," he says. "We are religious people, but we don't let this close our minds."

Turk is on a committee of five artists chosen to select the best submissions of Iraq's most popular art subject: President Hussein, whose portraits are displayed throughout the country.

He frowns at a suggestion that perhaps some of them go overboard, such as one at the monument depicting a belmeted Saddam Hussein charging the war-front with an assault rifle or another showing him thrashing wheat with a group of peasants.

Turk says thousands of paintings are submitted yearly, and his committee, picks the best ones for display at entrances to government buildings, on street corners or along highways.

## River Nile looks more bountiful

By Hamza Hendawi  
Reuters

CAIRO — After two low floods which raised the spectre of famine in largely-desert Egypt, the country's lifeline — the River Nile — has turned bountiful again.

And the government, aware it has a million more mouths to feed each year, is trying to ensure it continues to get enough water from the mighty river it shares with seven other nations.

Despite gloomy forecasts, the 1985 Nile flood yielded 60 billion cubic metres of water, nearly double last year's volume and 17 billion cubic metres more than in 1983, Irrigation Minister Essam Radi reported.

Good rains in the Ethiopian highlands and in equatorial Africa accounted for the bounty — without which Egypt might have faced trouble.

With images of devastating famine in Ethiopia and Sudan still vivid, the government is urging Egyptians not to squander the precious liquid and is searching for new water resources to boost agriculture, growing more slowly than the 49 million population.

"Very soon, a drop of water will be more valuable than a drop of oil," Radi told Reuters.

Prime-time television advertisements urge viewers not to use water unnecessarily and "to protect it to safeguard the right of others to live."

Since Pharaonic days, the Nile's annual flood starting in June and peaking in August has been the key to survival. Ancient Egyptians sacrificed maidens to the Nile god Hapi.

The late President Anwar Sadat once said he was prepared to fight to protect Egypt's share of the river's waters after Ethiopia spoke of building more dams.

began in 1979, the shortfall had to be made up by water from the lake behind the Soviet-built Aswan high dam. A parliamentary report last May warned there would not be enough water in the lake if low floods continued.

So vital is the high dam to Egypt's economy that authorities are building a security net in the river in front of it to catch floating mines, officials say.

Radi says that to get more water from other sources, the government aims to double the yield from underground reservoirs, to recycle sewage water for irrigation and, when floods are low, to cut the acreage under water-consuming crops such as rice.

Egypt is also campaigning for more cooperation with the other Nile basin states — Sudan, Uganda, Zaire, Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Ethiopia — as a way of protecting its share of the river's waters.

All except Ethiopia belong to a grouping, called the Uduugu (Swahili for brotherhood), formed by Egypt in 1983, and officials say privately Cairo hopes to lure Addis Ababa to join by making the group more active and boosting its image.

Egypt has suspended military aid to Somalia, which backs secessionist guerrillas in Ethiopia, and shut the secessionist movement's Cairo offices, official sources say.

The government hopes better ties with Ethiopia will prompt Addis Ababa to use its influence with south Sudanese rebels to get work going again on the Jonglei canal in southern Sudan, suspended after civil war broke out there in 1983.

The 350-km waterway is designed to allow Egypt and Sudan to use an extra 4.7 billion cubic metres of swamp water which now vanishes through evaporation.



## Aston Villa faces uphill task

LONDON (R) — Big-spending Aston Villa, record seven-time winners of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup, travels to Portsmouth Saturday knowing a defeat by the promotion-chasing second division team in their third round cup tie would plunge them into crisis.

The struggling Birmingham club have spent more than £1.3 million (\$1.9 million) in new players in the past year without creating a team to match their fine tradition, and after a series of disappointing results they are currently 18th in the first division.

Manager Graham Turner has wheeled and dealt ceaselessly in the transfer market, selling Gordon Cowans, and Paul Rideout to Italian club Bari and signing talented replacements like mid-

fielder Steve Hodge and striker Simon Stainrod.

But the new team has failed to click and a 1-0 home defeat by Manchester City on new year's day led to a demonstration by fans calling for Turner's dismissal and the resignation of the chairman Doug Ellis.

Turner is adamant his team will improve. "I've got Villa into the present mess and I am determined to get them out. If we get the right result at Portsmouth it could pro-

vide some short-term satisfaction."

Villa faces an uphill task. Portsmouth, managed by former England World Cup-winning midfielder Alan Ball, are in second place in division two and are particularly strong at home. In veteran striker Mike Channon, they also have an experienced match-winner to suit the occasion.

If Villa are knocked out in the third round — when the first and second division clubs join the surviving third and fourth division and minor league clubs in the draw — they could be in unexpectedly distinguished company.

Former champions Liverpool, also out of form, faces a difficult home tie against in-form second division leaders Norwich while

fourth-placed Chelsea travel to Shrewsbury.

Norwich, the holders of the Football League Cup, were relegated last season but remain a team of first division quality. They will fully extend Liverpool who are experiencing a patch of indifferent form at Anfield.

In addition Arsenal at Grimsby, Luton at Crystal Palace, Southampton at Middlesbrough, Queens Park Rangers at Cardiff, and Manchester City at Walsall, are all in danger of elimination by lower status opposition.

But holders Manchester United should have few problems in beating fourth division Rochdale at Old Trafford.

## Four yachts cross southern ocean in less than 30 days

AUCKLAND (R) — Drum England, the maxi yacht part-owned by Duran Duran pop star Simon Le Bon, Friday became the fourth competitor in the Whitbread round-the-world race to cross the southern ocean in less than 30 days.

Drum, skippered by American Skip Novak, finished the 7,100-mile second leg of the race from Cape Town to Auckland in 29 days, 13 hours, one minute and four seconds.

She joined Atlantic Privateer, the American maxi which claimed line honours, NZI Enterprise and UBS Switzerland in beating the fastest time of 30 days, two hours, four minutes and 36 seconds. That mark was set by flyer of The Netherlands, the winner of the 1981-82 race.

Le Bon will sail on Drum on the

third leg of the race around Cape Horn to Uruguay which starts early next month.

Drum reached Auckland almost 12 hours behind Atlantic Privateer which claimed line honours from New Zealand's NZI Enterprise after a sea-saw battle all the way from Cape Town.

Atlantic Privateer, skippered by South African Peter Kuitel, crossed the line after a passage of 29 days one hour four minutes and 36 seconds.

She was just seven minutes and 20 seconds ahead of Enterprise but cannot become overall winner after withdrawing from the first leg.

UBS Switzerland, leader of the first leg from Portsmouth, England, was the third yacht into Auckland, one hour, 54 minutes and 36 seconds behind Enterprise.

## Wilander strolls into Young Masters tennis semifinals

WEST BERLIN (R) — Mats Wilander of Sweden cruised effortlessly into the semifinals of the \$150,000 Young Masters tennis tournament Friday — and then claimed he was not playing too well.

Wilander, the world's number three, crushed Yugoslavia's Bruno Oresar 6-1, 6-1 in just 42 minutes to wrap up his third straight win in the preliminary round-robin games.

The Swede has totally outclassed his opponents in all three matches, dropping a mere six games and spending only 146 minutes on court.

But Wilander said afterwards: "I don't think I'm playing that well. Maybe I was a little too fast for Bruno."

The 18-year-old Yugoslav had won his first two matches in the "red" group, but he was never

able to cope with Wilander's solid, almost error-free strokeplay.

Wilander dropped only six points in winning the first five games as the bewildered Oresar struggled helplessly.

The French Open champion now faces Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek in Saturday's semifinals and is looking forward to meeting reigning champion Boris Becker of West Germany in the final.

Hlasek has qualified for the semifinals from the "blue" group, even before his final match Friday with Swede Henrik Sundstrom, after two straight-set wins.

Becker should reach the last four after meeting Marian Vajda of Czechoslovakia Friday night with his likely semifinal opponent being Ronald Agener of Haiti.

The tournament groups the world's top 16 players aged 21 and under.



Peter Hussing, winner of more than 400 heavyweight fights and holder of 16 boxing championship titles, retired recently because he turned

36, the age fixed by the German law for amateurs. He is now starting a new career as trainer. (INP/Horst Muller photo)

## PGA tour offers bigger prizes, more tournaments

PONTE VEDRA, Florida (R) — The chase for more than \$30 million prize money started in Nassau Thursday — the new, warm-up venue for the U.S. golf tour.

The 44-player first round of the Bahamas Classic over the paradise island course marked the beginning of a 1986 campaign which runs to 53 tournaments.

Next week's tournament of champions at La Costa, California serves as the official tour-opener.

Another fresh event on the schedule is The International, a million-dollar televised extravaganza to be held near Denver, the week after the PGA championship in August.

A total of 156 players will start but the field will be reduced each day, based solely upon a unique scoring system that will award players for various achievements, such as birdies and eagles. Regular stroke-play will be abandoned.

Another innovation is the Vantage Cup in which the most consistent players on the tour will share a \$2 million purse at the end of the year.

Tour commissioner Deane Beaman said recently: "Golf is healthier than the days of old some dream about."

"In the days of the big three — Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player — if one or more did not show up for a tournament it was considered a failure. Indeed, some did go out of business because of such a circumstance," he added.

"Now we are to the point in golf where if the biggest player in history isn't on his game, he may not make a cheque," Beaman said.

Beaman may be optimistic but he does have one task facing him. He must try to win the support of players, media and golfing public over the PGA's decision to suspend Severiano Ballesteros from the tour.

The Spaniard failed to play the required minimum of 15 tournaments last year and was ruled ineligible for 1986.

Ballesteros protested unsuccessfully and can only contest the Masters, U.S. Open and PGA championship this year, events outside PGA tour control, plus a tournament in New Orleans where he is defending champion.

Despite his absence, this year's healthy foreign contingent should make its presence felt. Among those expected to figure prominently are Masters champion Bernhard Langer and British Open winner Sandy Lyle.

The tour would also benefit if Nicklaus or Tom Watson could win an occasional tournament in the coming 12 months, particularly the Masters or the U.S. Open.

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## Yugoslavia's Split to host Europe's best athletes in '90

BELGRADE — Split, one of the most beautiful towns on the Yugoslav Adriatic coast, will in 1990 be host to the best athletes of Europe. This was decided at the regular congress of the European Athletics Federation in Oslo.

This town, a major Yugoslav sports centre, is already prepared for the great sports event, a modern stadium with mainly covered stands to seat 50 thousand spectators having been built for the Mediterranean Games in 1979.

There are facilities for 750 journalists and 160 TV commentators who have at their disposal 80 telephone and 20 teletype lines. This number can, if necessary, be increased.

The town of Split itself and its near environs can at present accommodate 6500 guests, for Split is the tourist centre of central Dalmatia. It is envisaged that by 1990 this number will increase to some 9000.

Split has several times proved itself an excellent organiser of major sports events. Besides the already mentioned Mediterranean Games (1979) at which 2400 sportsmen and women took part in 25 sports disciplines, it was also the host to the European Swimming Championships in 1981 and has been the site of the World Boule (bocca) Championships, a group of the World Basketball Championships, the international Yugoslav Open Tennis Championships — to mention only the more important international events.

The excellent organisation of these events has led the chairman of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, to recommend that Barcelona, a candidate for the 1992 Olympics, look into Split's experience when it prepares for the organisation of the Summer Olympics.

The sporting spirit of Split can also be seen in the fact that out of its 200 thousand inhabitants, some 15 thousand go in for some kind of sport. There are 128 sports clubs for 36 disciplines, a large number of which compete in the Yugoslav federal leagues.

The most famous Split team both in Yugoslavia and abroad is certainly the Hajduk football team, which has with greater or lesser success taken part in all three European club championships (Champions Cup, UEFA Cup and the Cup Winner Cup). Also well known is the Jugoplastika basketball team — finalists in the European Champions Cup (1972) and winners of the Radivoje Korac Cup (1976 and 1977).

Well known for its organising ability, Split proposes that the competition for the best athletes of Europe in 1990 be held in the month of September, towards the end of the tourist season, when the town is still full of guests from all over the world and the average daily temperature is some 20 degrees centigrade — Tanjug feature.

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## Washington Bullets shrug off flu, get hot shooting

NEW YORK (AP) — Flu viruses and basketball shooting streaks have something in common — they tend to spread from one person to another.

The Washington Bullets, hampered by a flu bug for the last week, discovered Thursday night that hot shooting also can be contagious. They made 65 per cent of their field-goal attempts for three quarters and finished with 61 per cent shooting for the game as they defeated the New York Knicks 115-109 in a National Basketball Association (NBA) game.

"When a team shoots well, it seems like everyone is shooting well," said Jeff Malone, who was 16-for-21 from the field and scored 37 points, one under his season high.

Also scoring big for Washington were Gus Williams with a season-high 32 points and Cliff Robinson with 28 (one under his season best).

In other NBA games, it was Boston 122, Indiana 104; Chicago 131, Detroit 122; Sacramento

114, San Antonio 106; and Houston 120, Golden State 115.

Williams, who was 15-for-21 from the field, was coming back after missing three games with the flu. Bullets' Darren Daye and Kenny Green were still sidelined by illness.

The Bullets also know something about cold-shooting streaks. On Dec. 22 they equalled a league record by scoring only 25 points in the second half against the Knicks.

Gerald Wilkins had 19 points and Louis Orr 18 to lead New York, while star rookie Patrick Ewing, after missing three games with an injured knee, finished with 13 on 2-for-11 shooting. Seven-foot-6 (2.29 metre) Washington centre Manute Bol didn't score, but he blocked seven shots.

Celtics 122, Pacers 104

Boston's Dennis Johnson also had a strong shooting performance, connecting on 14 of 20 shots and scoring 29 points against

Indiana.

Larry Bird added 27 points, 13 rebounds and eight assists for Boston, while Vern Fleming and Wayman Tisdale led Indiana with 18 points each.

Rockets 120, Warriors 115

John Lucas scored 27 points, six of them in the final minute, to keep Houston ahead of Golden State.

Akeem Olatunji scored 22 points for Houston, while Purvis Short had 38 and Joe Barry Carroll 23 for the Warriors.

Bulls 131, Pistons 122

Chicago handed Detroit its

ninth loss in 10 games as Quintin Dailey and Orlando Woolridge each scored 26 points for the Bulls.

George Gervin added 22 points for Chicago, 17 of them in the first period. Isaiah Thomas led all scorers with 29 for Detroit, while Kelly Tripucka had 25 and Bill Laimbeer 24.

Kings 114, Spurs 106

Mike Woodson scored seven of his game-high 24 points in the last five minutes as Sacramento survived a San Antonio rally.

The Spurs, who got 23 points from Wes Matthews, trailed 88-73 after three periods before launching a comeback in the fourth quarter.

## Austrian skier recovers

INNSBRUCK, Austria (R) — Austrian skier Christine Putz, who has been in a coma since crashing on the slopes at Val d'Isere, France, on Dec. 12, has recovered consciousness and taken her first steps, doctors said Thursday.

The 19-year-old landed on her head at Val d'Isere in the women's first world cup downhill ski race of the season. She woke up Wednesday, drank tea and took her first steps Thursday with the help of nurses.

Her doctor said no further therapy would be necessary as the Innsbruck-born skier was in outstanding physical shape.

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4440/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4035/40	Canadian dollars
	2.4610/25	West German marks
	2.7710/20	Dutch guilders
	2.0660/80	Swiss francs
	50.22/27	Belgian francs
	7.5400/5500	French francs
	1677/1679	Italian lire
	202.25/40	Japanese yen
	7.5935/85	Norwegian crowns
	7.5750/5800	Swedish crowns
	8.9665/9715	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	326.00/326.50	U.S. dollars

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares closed with the FT30 index at a record high as speculative demand and stock shortages pushed prices up, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FT30 index hit a new record high 1149.0 versus a previous high of 1147.5 last seen on Nov. 28. The FTSE 100 index at 1530 GMT was 7.7 up at 1428.2.

Electricals continued to meet buying interest with Thorn EMI 17p higher at 424 while Lucas extended its early gain to 15p at 508. GEC rose 8p to 178. Gold shares were mixed but North American firms firmed. Government bonds eased around 1/2 point at the longer end with sterling.

Imperial Group closed 2p higher at 258 after Hanson Trust published its formal offer document for the company. Imperial has already rejected the offer and Hanson closed 1p at 199.

Britannia Arrow ended 1p higher at 142 after news the group of shareholders opposing the £281 million bid from Guinness Peat, down 3p to 68, had earlier achieved a 26.36 per cent stake in Britannia. Guinness Peat's offer for the company closed at 1530 GMT on Friday with its holding at 29.9 per cent. ICI closed 4p up at 761.

Banks were dull but insurances firmed with Sun Alliance 10p up at 540. Abbey Life was 1p lower at 216 after 221 on profit-taking in the wake of bid speculation, dealers said.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 4, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are under excellent aspects to get in touch with whomever you wish to be associated with in the future and to join forces with them and formulate a mutual course of action.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact associates and discuss vital matters with them, so that the future can be more successful for all concerned.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An ideal day to get into the sports and amusements that you most enjoy, but first make some new plan for the days ahead.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Put worries aside and be off to pleasures with good companions and have a fine time with them.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Add something new to your home that will please family and bring greater comfort there.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get out with good friends to whatever activities are mutually enjoyed. Later make visits to friends you haven't seen.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Handle those tasks that will make your possessions more charming and valuable. Show that you have excellent taste.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get busy early improving your appearance in some way and this will give you ego a boost. Then plan to make a good friend soon.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A good day to delve into whatever is puzzling to you and get the right solution to enigmas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try not to do or say anything that could irritate one you care much about. Any personal duties should be handled.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) If out in public, be certain to do nothing that can spoil your good reputation. Study career matters.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You want to take on some new enterprises but you need more information if they are to be made successful.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your intuition is not working very accurately; so rely solely on your mature judgment. Not a good day to take on responsibilities.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she can easily understand others and will be so charming that everyone will want to be with your progeny. Be sure to send to fine schools where this natural charm can be enhanced and a fine career is possible in the world of entertainment.

## 5-year-Omani development plan envisages higher spending, deficit

BAHRAIN (R) — Oman published Thursday its third five-year economic plan, which calls for higher government expenditure and a deeper government budget deficit than previous plans.

Figures carried by the official Oman News Agency showed government spending forecast at 9.25 billion omani rials (\$27.76 billion) for the five years started Wednesday.

This compares with 7.37 billion (\$21.32 billion) forecast in the second plan and 3.34 billion (\$9.66 billion) in the first.

Total revenues were estimated at 8.66 billion rials (\$25.05 billion), compared with 6.95 billion (\$20.10 billion) forecast in the second plan and 3.13 billion (\$9.05 billion) in the first.

Actual revenues and spending during the full period of the second plan have not been published.

Oil revenues were projected to rise slightly to 7.17 billion rials (\$20.74 billion) from 7.09 billion (\$20.51 billion) envisaged in the second plan.

Non-oil revenues were forecast to jump to 1.2 billion rials (\$3.47 billion) from 343 million (\$992 million).

Official figures show actual government spending in the four years 1981-4 of about 5.7 billion rials (\$16.5 billion) and revenues of about 5.3 billion (\$15.3 billion).

In November, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, Sheikh Qais Ibn Abdul Monim Al Zawawi, said the government decided to boost oil output, borrow internationally, draw on its reserves and increase non-oil revenue so the goals of the second plan would not be jeopardised.

The remedial measures that the government undertook meant that no single project was either cancelled or scaled down. On the contrary, in addition to the projects originally endorsed, the plan saw the start of completion of new ones," he said.

Oman stepped up oil production in 1985 to 500,000 barrels per day or more to sustain revenues.

The agency gave no further details about the new plan, although bankers and officials in Oman have said they expected more development expenditure to focus away from the capital and into the rural areas.

An attempt to diversify the economy away from its heavy dependence on oil had also been expected.

## Qatar's steel company loses about \$13 million

DOHA (R) — Qatar's steel company (Qasco) could have lost as much as 50 million riyals (\$13.7 million) in 1985, its chairman was quoted Thursday as saying.

Sheikh Mohammad Said Al Mishal, also told the daily Gulf News that accumulated losses could reach about 400 million riyals (\$109.5 million).

He attributed the losses to high interest payment on loans, which reached 70 million riyals (\$19.2 million) a year ago, and a difficult market situation characterised by dumping.

Sheikh Mishal said one solution which could alleviate the problems was an increase of some 150 million riyals (\$41 million) in Qasco's 300 million riyal (\$82 million) share capital, a 100,000 to 150,000 tonnes boost in annual

output and a cut in operating costs. It was not clear whether the company planned to adopt the strategy.

Qasco, which began operations in 1978, produces about 500,000 tonnes of steel bars annually. The Qatari government has a 70 per cent equity share with Kobe Steel and Tokyo Boeki of Japan holding 20 per cent and 10 per cent respectively.

Sheikh Mishal said operation costs could be cut by 50 per cent by renegotiating the management and marketing agreement with the two Japanese firms, which get a total annual fee of 20 million riyals (\$5.5 million), and by cutting the cost of loans.

The two measures alone could reduce losses by 45 million riyals (\$12.3 million) within a year, he added.

## U.S. carmakers post best output since 1979

DETROIT, Michigan (R) — U.S. carmakers had their best production year since 1979 last year, turning out 8.2 million cars in a 5.5 per cent increase over the previous year, the companies reported Thursday.

The overall gain was propelled by General Motors, Chrysler Volkswagen of America and U.S. production by the Japanese carmakers Honda and Nissan.

But Ford Motor, which shut down some assembly lines to prepare for its new front-drive mid-sized models, said 1985 car output

was down 7.8 per cent from 1984. American Motors, controlled by Renault of France, also reported a 42.2 per cent decrease due to a drastic drop in demand.

The industry's third consecutive year of higher production was another sign of the industry's recovery from the crippling 1979/82 recession.

But automotive analysts and corporate executives said they expect Detroit's string of production gains to end this year because of a softer market and greater import competition.

## Cairo raises air freight charges

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's ministry of tourism and civil aviation will raise air freight charges by 60 per cent starting from Saturday, the semi-official daily Al-Ahram reported. The decision follows the introduction of a similar hike on the cost of air travel two weeks ago after the government announced that an exchange rate of 1.35 pounds to the dollar would apply to airline tickets rather than the overvalued official rate of 0.84 pounds to the dollar. The government is trying slowly to abolish the lower rate by replacing it with the "floating rate" and simplifying the multi-tiered foreign exchange system.

## World Bank cuts interest

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank said Thursday it was lowering its interest rate on loans to developing countries to 8.50 per cent from 8.82 per cent for the six months beginning Jan. 1, 1986.

It was the seventh consecutive reduction since the bank adopted a policy on July 1, 1982, of semi-annually resetting its lending rates. At that time the rate was 11.47 per cent.

The rate is calculated by adding 0.5 percentage points to the cost to the bank during the preceding six months of a pool of outstanding borrowings made since July 1, 1982.

The yen must stabilise around its end-year level of 200.60 to the dollar, he told Japan's Kyodo News Agency in a new year interview, held for release Friday under an accord with the central bank.

Asian markets reacted nervously to the news during Friday's Tokyo market holiday closure. The dollar jumped to over 202 yen from Friday morning's five-year low in Asia of 198.35/45 and against New Year's 198.55/65 close.

"The stabilisation of the exchange rate should last for a long period to redress trade imbalances between Japan and its trading partners," Kyodo quoted Mr. Sumita as saying.

Since the Group of Five (G-5) leading industrial nations agreed on Sept. 22 to depress the overvalued dollar through concerted market intervention, it has fallen about 20 per cent against the yen.

The future of world exchange rates and ways to sharp fluctuations in major currencies would be high on the agenda of the May summit, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said on New Year's day.

## Turkey seeks big boost in trade links with Iran

LONDON (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived in Tehran on Friday for talks with his Iranian counterpart Mir-Hossein Mousavi, the official news agency IRNA reported. Mr. Ozal is accompanied by 150 businessmen hoping for major orders from Turkey's second biggest trading partner.

Officials in Ankara said Mr. Ozal was expected to sign economic accords to provide a big boost in trade and financial links and cover construction of a pipeline to take Iranian oil exports to the Turkish Mediterranean coast.

The trip is also expected to set the seal on an agreement reached by officials for Iran to drop a demand that Turkish oil tankers load

at Kharg Island in the northern Gulf, for which insurance rates have soared due to the risk of Iraqi attack, rather than Sirri Island further south.

Government sources said the officials had also found a solution to Turkish charges that Iran had failed to open letters of credit for goods which it agreed to import from Turkey, including \$250 million worth of iron and steel.

Minister of state, Mr. Mustafa Tinnaz Tinnaz, who returned from Iran on Wednesday, said it was planned to increase trade volume to \$3 billion this year from \$2.3 billion in 1985.

A list of Iranian imports from Turkey was agreed, and Turkish firms are to help build, refit and supply Iranian factories in several sectors, he said. The businessmen travelling with Mr. Ozal hope to take advantage of this.

Mr. Ozal, in talks with Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi, is also expected to discuss the Gulf war, in which Turkey carefully treads a neutral path.

## Nigeria moves to relax foreign exchange, reschedule debt

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria gave details Thursday of a new, unregulated foreign exchange market as part of its 1986 budget and said it wanted to reschedule some of its medium and long term debts.

In his budget speech, military leader General Ibrahim Babangida announced the second tier market scheme and said he wanted to reduce the value of the naira in order to discourage imports and stimulate exports.

In his statement Thursday, Mr. Kalu also said he wanted to reach a rescheduling agreement with creditors that would allow Nigeria to use no more than 30 per cent of its foreign exchange earnings to service its debts.

He said Nigeria could not afford to pay the four billion naira (dollars), or 42 per cent of export earnings, that would be needed for debt service this year without rescheduling.

Mr. Kalu said the second tier system would allow market-regulated foreign exchange transactions by Nigerian banks under the supervision of the central bank.

The high value of the naira has made imports cheap and Nigeria's dwindling exports, other than oil which is priced in dollars, are uncompetitive in foreign markets.

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Mr. Kalu did not say how much debt he wanted to reschedule, but he presented figures showing outstanding medium and long term debt of about eight billion naira (dollars).

Nigeria recently decided against taking an International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan of about \$2.5 billion, which some creditors had insisted on as a condition for a rescheduling.

But Mr. Kalu said the 1986 budget proposals, which included a sharp reduction in domestic fuel subsidies and a 30-per-cent levy on imports, would provide "a very realistic basis" for rescheduling discussions with creditors.

Mr. Kalu said a rescheduling deal would make available much-needed foreign exchange to pay for imported raw materials, drugs and educational supplies.

## Norwegian stock market booms despite criticism on insider trading

OSLO (R) — Business on the Oslo stock exchange has leapt 20-fold in just four years, but allegations from overseas of insider trading and questionable practices are putting the boom in jeopardy.

The Norwegian government this year introduced strict laws governing insider trading — the exploitation of privileged information for profit in market transactions — but foreign investors say the new regulations are not strong enough.

Oslo exchange vice-president, Mr. Kjell Froensdal, told Reuters the criticisms were justified, but the exchange secretariat was in the process of cracking down on insider trading and on the legal, but ethically questionable, behaviour of some traders.

Turnover was just 1.7 billion crowns (\$223 million) in 1981, but will probably reach 36 billion crowns (\$4.73 billion) in 1985, and exchange officials predict continued growth in 1986.

The Oslo government will this year announce measures permitting foreign investors to buy non-voting shares in Norwegian companies, and is also considering allowing securities trading by foreign banks operating in Norway.

Securities analysts in London contacted by Reuters said insider trading was still widespread on the Oslo exchange and foreign investors were wary about entering the Norwegian market despite its attractions.

One said the exchange had developed very quickly in a short period, "but some stock markets smell of insider trading, which we know is rife (in Oslo)."

"International investors must be very careful about when, how and with whom they deal," he added.

Mr. Froensdal pointed out that small stock exchanges that attracted widespread interest from abroad were often incapable of handling large share movements.

"We think some foreign investors have burned their fingers this way," he said.

The London analysts said selling large amounts of stock was impossible in Norway unless it was of the top two corporates, industrial giant Norsk Hydro and computer company Norsk Data, both quoted on other European exchanges and on Wall Street.

Norsk Data has raised its net profits by at least 50 per cent annually for the past seven years, and its activities have been emulated in Norway by small computer companies, but with differing degrees of success.

Mr. Froensdal said international investors had lost considerable amounts on high-technology firms that grew very quickly but then ran out of steam. "They were the last to jump off the train," he added.

He said the Oslo exchange secretariat had welcomed new legislation on insider trading introduced in 1985, but no-one had yet been caught. Anyone convicted of trading illegally now faces up to one year in prison.

## THE Daily Crossword by Mary Coo Whitten

ACROSS

8 WWII service group

10 African nation

14 Asian capital

16 American island

18 Stage place

19 East — Bigger

20 Needy

22 Ready to ship

24 Hercules' captive

26 Cup handle

28 Highway

30 Hong Kong cab

32 Charged atoms

34 Bitter herbs

36 Denial

38 Pro

40 Neon locus

42 Incurable

44 Deceptive talk

46 Piggery

48 Jackson or Helms

50 Unspoken

52 Oscar statue

54 Rain lightly

56 Garden structure

58 "Oz" — when material

60 Soviet range

62 Actor-Johnson

64 Stacking

66 Dispatch

68 Cain's victim

70 Accused pro

72 Dictionary

74 Fatigue

76 Nehru's land

78 Curried cheese

80 Treadmill

82 Tuba

DOWN

1 Mute's perk

3 Raven cries

5 Spay —

7 Sals

9 Stinky

11 Banquet

## Peanuts

THAT WAS A HARD TEST... HOW'D YOU EVER GET AN "A"?

I PASS TESTS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY...

I STUDY!!

YOU'RE WEIRD MARCIE!

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HARRIS



# New year violence claims 25 lives in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Renewed violence in South Africa killed four more black people during the night, bringing the death toll in racial disturbances since the New Year to at least 25.

Police said the body of a black man was found in Kwanabele tribal homeland, in the north east. Residents of nearby Moutse village, who are fighting moves to incorporate them into the homeland, have said up to 18 people died in tribal clashes over the issue.

A police statement said two black men were murdered in a township near Stutterheim, Cape province, by blacks who had set their home a light.

The fourth victim died in hospital from severe burns after police found him near Burgersdorp, also in the Cape.

Police have confirmed seven deaths in Moutse and 11 elsewhere in racial violence since the New Year.

Police also confirmed that three men were found dead on New Year's Day in a black squatter camp in the Cape Town area.

Although police denied those killings were political, the authoritative daily Cape Times said the men died in fighting between radicals and conservatives in the

15,000 blacks, many of them radical youths.

Anti-apartheid activists said her funeral was the biggest ever given by blacks to a white person in South Africa.

Blackburn, 55, had worked extensively within the white opposition Progressive Federal Party and the black Sash, spending much of the past year taking affidavits from township residents alleging ill-treatment by the security forces.

Reverend Allan Boesak, a founder of the UDF, told mourners: "In this country there are precious few white people who had gained so much love and respect from us (non-whites)."

A police spokesman later announced a ban on a memorial service to honour Blackburn Saturday in Port Elizabeth.

He said eastern Cape Divisional Commissioner Ernest Schnetler had issued the order because the meeting could "endanger public safety."

Many church leaders and key opponents of the government had been invited.

Meanwhile Lesotho government officials said Thursday South African border officials are turning away Lesotho citizens in a retaliatory move against Lesotho.

which petitioned the U.N. Security Council over the killing of nine people in Maseru.

The action apparently started Wednesday, with South African immigration officials only allowing through those working in mines in the white-ruled country. No reason was given for the clampdown, they said.

Lesotho officials at the Maseru Bridge border told those barred Wednesday they would be allowed on Thursday, but on Thursday morning they were turned away again.

Lesotho Information Minister Desmond Sidshe told Reuters he felt the South African action was a retaliatory move against the petition.

Lesotho blamed South Africa for the Dec. 20 murders, but Pretoria denied any involvement. The Security Council unanimously condemned South Africa for the killings.

Lesotho, which is surrounded by and economically dependent on South Africa, accuses Pretoria of backing rebels fighting its government, while South Africa charges Lesotho with harbouring African National Congress (ANC) guerrillas.

## Ugandan peace pact stalemated, rebels say

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Last month's Ugandan peace pact cannot be implemented while government troops continue committing atrocities, former rebel leader Yoweri Museveni said.

Topic, the newspaper of Tanzania's ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi Party, quoted the National Resistance Army (NRA) chief Friday as saying he would not go to Kampala to take up his post as vice-chairman of the ruling military council as long as the city was not safe.

Mr. Museveni became vice-chairman of the council under the peace pact signed between his rebel group and the government in Nairobi on Dec. 17.

On Thursday the presidents of Kenya and Tanzania both put off plans to visit Uganda Saturday, signalling concern over the shaky state of the peace pact.

Mr. Museveni, who arrived Thursday for talks with President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, had earlier issued a list of 300 killings which he said had taken place since the pact was signed.

Ugandan Defence Minister Wilson Toka has admitted that government soldiers have continued to kill and terrorise civilians in the northern town of Lira.

"The killings now taking place in Uganda are deliberate and are calculated to violate the peace agreement," the NRA said in a press statement.

"These killings have been accompanied by beatings, raping of infants, very old women and women who have just delivered, looting, destruction of property such as burning of houses and many other unprintable atrocities," the statement added.

"These acts of barbarism are casting grave doubt on the whole process of implementation of the peace agreement, especially since to effort is being made by the Uganda government to reverse the current dangerous situation," it said.

Both the government and the NRA have said the December accord calling on all factions to cease committing atrocities has had little effect.

They accuse each other of violating the agreement designed to halt violence which has wracked Uganda for the last 20 years.

Uganda Thursday imposed censorship on news about its security forces amid rebel accusations that government troops were continuing to slaughter civilians.

Chief of defence forces Lt. Gen. Bazilio Okello told reporters a press security committee was being formed to "scrutinise and approve or disapprove all news items on security forces before they are printed or broadcast."

## Aquino campaigns in Marcos' home region

ALAMINOS, Philippines (Agencies) — A small group booted opposition candidate Corason Aquino on Friday as more than 2,000 rural residents chanted her name as she campaigned in the home region of President Ferdinand Marcos.

It was the first time in the Philippine presidential campaign that groups of supporters of one side appeared at a rally for the other.

Three men who identified themselves as members of a nationalist youth group headed by Marcos' daughter shouted, "down with imperialism," a slogan used by leftists against Mr. Marcos but which his supporters now are using to oppose Mrs. Aquino.

A small group of Marcos supporters booed Mrs. Aquino, the widow of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino, while a crowd of her supporters estimated by reporters at about 2,000 people chanted her name.

In a news conference Thursday, she said she would never be a Communist but would welcome Communists in her government if they renounced violence and participated in the election Feb. 7.

Member of the Kabataan Barangay (Nationalist Youth) posted a sign in front of the Alaminos Municipal Hall, next to the crowded rally site, which said in Tagalog, "expose the conspiracy of leftists and rightists against the country."

Mr. Marcos has accused Mrs. Aquino of soliciting help from U.S. sources but has also alleged that there are Communist advisers in her campaign. She has denied both allegations.

Mr. Marcos, playing on Filipinos' fear of Communism, claims the country would fall into Communist hands if Mrs. Aquino won the Feb. 7 election.

Mrs. Aquino said former Sen. Jovito Salonga has abandoned a quest for the vice presidential candidacy and signed an agreement for a united campaign against Mr. Marcos.

Mr. Salonga, who heads a group that originally supported Mrs. Aquino, had opposed her running mate, former Sen. Salvador Laurel.

Mrs. Aquino and Mr. Laurel told a rally in Lingayen, 32 kilometres north of Manila, that Mr. Salonga had reached agreement with Mr. Laurel on all issues and would support the Aquino-Laurel ticket.

The only holdout in opposition unification efforts was Eva Estrada Kalaw, from a wing of the opposition Liberal Party, who has said she will continue her candidacy for vice president while supporting Mrs. Aquino for president.

Former Sen. Ernesto Maceda held up a copy of the New York-published Village Voice weekly with the headline "Marcos takes Manhattan," referring to opposition charges that the Marcoses and their business associates have accumulated properties in New York and elsewhere.

"Marcos is intelligent enough that if he bought any properties, he did not put them in his name," Mr. Maceda told the crowd, which raised hands in a thumbs-down gesture to show their opposition to the president.

Mrs. Aquino, who arrived in Alaminos in a helicopter that swooped over the rally site, bringing cheers from the crowd before it landed. The town plaza had been plastered with signs supporting Mr. Marcos and his vice presidential running mate, assemblyman Arturo Tolentino.

At least 20 people were killed and more than 600 injured, mostly from firework burns, in New Year celebrations and violence in Manila, police said.

According to the military, 34 other people were killed in the countryside in Communist rebel-related action during the last four days of 1985.

## Sri Lanka checking tea exports after poison threats

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka is checking all tea exports after the British and United States embassies received warnings that arsenic had been put in consignments, authoritative sources said here Friday.

The Sri Lankan government and Sri Lanka Tea Board strongly denied that Tamil guerrillas mixed arsenic powder in a consignment of tea for export but confirmed that "precautions" were being taken.

"There is nothing new in this type of threat. There have been similar ones earlier and necessary precautions were taken then. Similar precautions are being taken now," a tea board spokesman told Reuters.

A senior official for a leading firm which exports tea mainly to the United States said the British and U.S. embassies had received letters warning that tea consignments meant for export had been poisoned.

"We took serious notice of these threats and halted shipments and are checking on all consignments," said the official, who did not want either himself or his firm named.

He said the firm would resume tea exports after it was satisfied tea had not been poisoned.

The firm believed the warnings were a hoax but it was taking all precautions.

## Rajneesh arrives in Nepal

KATMANDU, Nepal (Agencies) — Indian guru Bhagwan Rajneesh arrived in Nepal on Friday, saying he had come to see the disciples who for years have been inviting him to visit.

Rajneesh also said he had come because it was "too cold" in the northern Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, where he earlier took refuge after being ordered to leave the United States in November.

"I'm feeling great here," he said on arrival in Katmandu.

One Nepalese disciple, Swami Anand Arun, said the last invitation to Rajneesh, in a letter signed by 1,500 people, came because it was "heavily snowing in Kulu Valley-Manali" in Himachal Pradesh.

Rajneesh, on his first visit to Nepal, said, "I will be here three weeks and will see everything worth seeing in Nepal."

When one disciple cried, "only three weeks?" Rajneesh replied, "as long as you wish."

But he said he had no intention of settling in Nepal, although Indians do not need visas to live there or passports to travel between India and Nepal. Rajneesh said he had no plans to leave India permanently in the near future, and denied reports that he was looking for a home in Fiji in the South Pacific.

The 54-year-old guru has told reporters at the New Delhi airport that he would return to India to "look into some places where I am considering to set up a permanent commune."

"A rolling stone gathers no moss," Rajneesh, clad in purple robes and a woollen cap against the early morning chill, told Reuters as he boarded a Royal Nepal Airlines flight to New Delhi with four trusted disciples.

Rajneesh, who returned to India from the United States only six weeks ago vowing never again to leave his homeland, surprised even close aides when he left the resort town of Manali in Himachal Pradesh Thursday.

A spokesman for the Manali Hotel said the bearded guru, who had booked 19 cottages until March, informed the management

of his plans only minutes before his departure.

Guards outside his luxury hotel suite in Delhi kept crowds of anxious followers at bay Thursday night.

Rajneesh said he was disenchanted with India after the government expelled 10 of his senior aides, all foreigners.

The aides, including Rajneesh's personal doctor, cook and nurse, were asked to leave India last month when their tourist visas expired.

Indian newspapers reported Friday that Rajneesh had left unpaid bills totalling 250,000 rupees (\$20,000) at the Manali Hotel.

"He lives from moment to moment and we really don't know where he will be going tomorrow," one aide told reporters.

Rajneesh said last week that he planned to establish a new commune, possibly on the Pacific Ocean island of Fiji. He also said two unnamed South American countries had invited him.

"We can make a paradise. Why should we bother with governments? The Indian mind is so greedy and materialistic in spite of all the nonsense spoken about spiritualism," he said.

The Fiji government has denied any knowledge of his plans.

Rajneesh ran a controversial commune in the United States for four years. He fled to India in November after pleading guilty to charges of violating immigration laws.

He left behind 90 Rolls Royces and a small fleet of aircraft in his flight in search of a new heaven.

Rajneesh charged last week the New Delhi government was under pressure from Washington to make his life difficult after Indian embassies were ordered not to issue visas to his followers.

The United Nations of India (UNI) news agency said Rajneesh was planning to settle down either in Nepal or Australia.

It quoted him saying in an interview before he left Manali Thursday that celibacy was a crime against nature and a high sex drive improved a man's creativity.

## Punjab leader calls for fight against extremists

NEW DELHI (R) — The chief minister of India's Punjab state, facing demands for a crackdown on mounting violence, Friday called for public help in crushing Sikh extremists.

"Do not give them shelter. Hand them over to the police whenever you come by terrorists. The only fit place where they can live is jail," Surjit Singh Barnala said.

Speaking in the Punjab village of Gikriani, Mr. Barnala said extremists who killed a Sikh policeman and wounded his Hindu colleague in a crowded bus on New Year's Day could not be Sikhs. "Their only religion is violence," he said.

Gikriani is the birthplace of moderate Sikh leader Harchand Singh Longowal, killed by extremists four months ago.

Extremists have killed about 50 people in stepped-up attacks since Mr. Barnala's Akali Dal Party won state polls last September, threatening to scuttle a peace accord signed by Mr. Longowal and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi five months ago.

Brij Bhushan Mehra, a senior leader of Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in Punjab, asked Punjab Governor Shankar Dayal Sharma Friday to call a meeting of all the state's political groups to discuss the "serious law and order situation."

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted Mr. Mehra as saying Mr. Barnala's government was losing its grip on the crisis and that people were growing insecure.

In the latest attack two suspected extremists shot and killed

the cashier of an oil mill in Amritsar Thursday night when he tried to stop them robbing the till.

Punjab authorities took several steps Friday to try to curb the violence after demands by New Delhi for stronger action.

An official spokesman said people who surrendered illegal firearms, ammunition or grenades before a Jan. 30 deadline would not face action from police.

Authorities also halted late-night film shows and all traffic along Punjab's two main irrigation channels, and clamped a dusk-to-dawn ban on motorcycle riders.

Tension is also rising over the Jan. 26 transfer to Punjab of Chandigarh, the city it now shares as capital with neighbouring Haryana state under the terms of the peace pact.

Haryana's Congress (I) Chief Minister Bhajan Lal said Thursday he would resist the transfer if claims by his state to Punjab territory and river waters were not settled.

Meanwhile police said more than 100 people have been killed in the past 10 days in the worst winter storms to sweep north India for two decades.

Police said the area worst-hit by freezing temperatures and blizzards was northernmost Jammu and Kashmir state where 41 people have died in snow or been killed as flimsy mud houses collapsed in heavy rain.

During the past three days troops and police evacuated 9,000 pilgrims cut off by snow 1,500 metres above sea level near the state's Vaishno Devi Hindu shrine.

## Savimbi to visit U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Angola's UNITA rebel group, will travel to the United States later this month to try to influence Congress over U.S. funding for his anti-Communist insurgency.

Figueiredo Paulo, a Washington-based spokesman for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), told Reuters that Mr. Savimbi will meet Reagan administration officials and members of the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Paulo said Mr. Savimbi's arrival date was not yet fixed but a spokesman for a U.S. fund-raising group, the Conservative Political Action Committee (C-PAC), said the rebel leader would speak at its annual conference on Jan. 31.

UNITA has waged a bush war since 1975 against the Marxist government of Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, which is backed by some 35,000 Cuban troops.

The Reagan administration, which supports Nicaraguan and Afghan rebels, is considering some form of aid for UNITA.

While President Reagan has said he has not yet decided whether to ask Congress to grant the aid, or whether it would be humanitarian or military, he has said he would favour a covert programme over open funding.

Many members of Congress support the aid which they see as a logical extension of Mr. Reagan's support for other anti-Communist insurgencies. The issue is likely to come up soon after Congress returns from its Christmas recess on Jan. 21.

One bill under consideration in the House of Representatives would provide UNITA with \$27 million in humanitarian aid, medicine, clothing and other non-military supplies.

But Congress is as divided over UNITA aid as it was over the administration's request for funds for the Nicaraguan rebels and congressional sources expect a tough battle.

On his last visit to Washington in 1981, Mr. Savimbi privately met then Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who explained the U.S. wish to see all Cuban forces leave Angola.

The State Department has for years attempted to broker a peaceful settlement to the regional conflict that would involve the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and independence for South African-ruled Namibia (South West Africa).

Recent published reports have said the State Department opposes aid for UNITA, believing it would jeopardise that peace-seeking effort.

## 25,000 professionals march in Dhaka

DHAKA (R) — About 25,000 striking government professionals marched through Dhaka Friday, chanting slogans denouncing the arrest of seven colleagues and declaring plans to continue their 13-day-old stoppage.

Armed police stood by as the marchers shouted "free our colleagues" and "we will die for our demands."

Strike leaders told a rally before the march that the 40,000 striking doctors, engineers and agricultural researchers could resign en masse on Sunday if their demands for higher pay and status were not met by Saturday.

Major opposition parties have called a six-hour national stoppage for Sunday, a normal working day here, to back the professionals and striking trade union workers.

The strike has shut most hos-

pitals and affected power supplies and telephone services. The army set up field hospitals in Dhaka Thursday to ease pressure on poor patients needing immediate medical attention. At least 25 patients have died due to lack of treatment, government officials said.

All but seven of some 100 professionals arrested Thursday were freed a few hours later. The government has sacked 13 professionals since the indefinite stoppage began.

Union leaders have denied government statements that most of some 230,000 jobs workers had ended their strike.

Meanwhile, a former prime minister accused President Hosain Mohammad Ershad Friday of trying to destroy democracy in Bangladesh by changing political parties to suit his own ends.

"In his attempt to become a civilian leader, he (Ershad) is killing

one political baby after another," Ataur Rahman Khan said in reference to the formation of the pro-Ershad Jatiya Party last Wednesday.

"He changes and forgets his commitments conveniently and does not feel bad. As a result, the nation is suffering from a crisis of confidence and leadership," he said in a statement.

Mr. Khan, 79, was a member of the pro-government Janadali Party formed in 1983 and later served Gen. Ershad as prime minister for one year.

He was dropped from the cabinet last March when Janadali was replaced by a five-party national front to back Gen. Ershad's policies. The front was abolished with the formation of Jatiya Party.

Mr. Khan urged political parties to unite to press for the restoration of democracy.

## Kanakaks to attend conference in Libya

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — A pro-independence front in the troubled French territory of New Caledonia was reported Friday to be planning to attend a summit of "Liberation movements" in Libya.

Six leaders of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front or FLNKS will attend the summit in Tripoli within the next two months, the Melbourne Age newspaper reported.

"The West might regard Libya as the devil, but for the people of New Caledonia it is France that is the real devil," said Yann Ugelei, a senior front leader interviewed in Noumea by the newspaper.

Australian consular officials, reached by telephone in Noumea, confirmed that leaders of the front would attend the meeting, which would include delegates from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Ugelei said his group had no immediate plans to seek direct aid from Libya. Just over a year ago, the front sent 17 young men

to Libya on a one-month paramilitary training course.

More than 20 people have died in clashes between native Melanesian independence seekers, also known as Kanakaks, and French-European white settlers in the past 13 months.

Mr. Ugelei, who has already made two visits to Libya, said the Tripoli conference of liberation movements was an opportunity to publicise the Kanak struggle and "build solidarity" with other liberation movements.

"The political situation here is no different from what happened in Algeria and Vietnam," he said. "That is why we must struggle at the international level."

The French settlers, many from former French colonies in Indochina and Algeria, along with other ethnic groups, comprise a 57 per cent majority of the territory's 145,000 population.

The indigenous Melanesians are demanding immediate independence from France, which has ruled the nickel-rich former penal colony since 1853. France

has promised to hold a referendum on an independence in association with France by not later than Dec. 31, 1987.

Mr. Ugelei warned of renewed violence if there were any moves to disrupt the struggle for independence.

Aside from sporadic bloodletting in New Caledonia, the Pacific region has been virtually free of terrorist activity — probably because of its geographical remoteness.

But Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke warned of the danger of terrorism spreading to the South Pacific following the October 1984 FLNKS training mission to Libya.

The FLNKS was confirmed as the dominant pro-independence political alliance in New Caledonia in elections in the territory last September. It now controls the three new regional governments which administer almost all of the territory outside Noumea, where the majority of settlers live.

## Column

### Jailbirds fly round the world on credit cards

OSLO (R) — Two escaped convicts armed with credit cards have run up bills totalling three million crowns (\$400,000) on a round-the-world spending spree since getting away from a Norwegian jail, police said Friday. Huge hotel and shopping bills charged to international credit cards showed the two had been living luxuriously in Rio De Janeiro, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore after they failed to return to prison following brief paroles three months ago. Prison wardens received cordial postcard greetings from Oystein Christensen and Per Wold from Trinidad and Central America, prison officials said. Christensen had formed a private company to qualify for the cards while still in prison, where he served a sentence for drug trafficking, and had appointed his fellow inmate Wold managing director of the firm.

### Priceless book stolen from library

NOTTINGHAM, England (R) — A priceless medieval book in Latin has been stolen from a library near this English midlands city, police have said. The leather-bound Plutarch's Lives, printed on cream parchment in Venice in 1478, had been kept in a safe at Long Eaton Public Library. Library officials expressed fear that the thieves might throw it away because it would be difficult to sell, and they appealed for its safe return. Plutarch, a Greek biographer and philosopher, lived in the first century A.D. His lives, a collection of 46 biographies of prominent Greeks and Romans, has inspired many playwrights including William Shakespeare.

### 170 Gurkhas pile aboard land-rover

HONG KONG (R) — Gurkha troops claimed a world record after 170 of them piled aboard a 10-seat army land-rover. The Nepalese troops, stationed with British forces in Hong Kong, took 50 seconds to scramble onto the vehicle and then drive 20 metres to seek a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Captain Colin Plack, who organised the charity event, said a shortage of more Gurkhas thwarted any further attempt to improve on the record of 153 set in England last year.

### Lottery billionaire gets money in a sack

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's first lottery billionaire, 27-year-old accountant Sahin Sari, received his prize money in a sack after going on an anticipatory spending spree. Sari, from the small southern town of Osmaniye, collected one billion lira (\$1.8 million), the top prize in a special New Year draw of the state-run National Lottery. The Anatolian News Agency reported. Before the ceremony, Sari toured boutiques in Ankara, buying clothes for himself, his wife and his friends. The bill was paid by the bank where he will deposit the money. Lottery General-Director Cevat Uner told reporters 24 billion liras (\$43 million) worth of tickets were sold in two New Year lotteries. Half was given away in prizes and eight billion liras (\$14.5 million) went to the Defence Industry Support Fund, the main beneficiary of the lottery.

### India to set up all-women police squad

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said Friday he was setting up a special women-only police battalion to give women better representation in India's security forces. "I am not a feminist but a humanist," Mr. Gandhi, son of one of the world's first women prime ministers, Indira Gandhi, told a group of women in a television interview. Replying to questions, Mr. Gandhi said the status of women in India was "not good enough." He said one step to improve the status of women in Indian women more in outside life was the setting up of a women's battalion in the Central Reserve Police Force, the paramilitary force often used to quell riots. He said he was also calling on state governments to recruit more women to local police forces, which usually have few or no women. One of Mr. Gandhi's five women ministers announced the setting up of another special police unit for women. Margaret Alva, minister of state for women's welfare, told a conference of women lawyers the unit would look after women living in fear of violence.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AK6 ♠AK763 ♠A85 ♠6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

What action do you take?  
A. — Either four hearts or four spades could prove to be a better contract than three no trump, but how do you propose to investigate either possibility? You have already told partner that you have an unbalanced hand, so it is not prudent to override his decision. Pass.

Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠K1076 ♠A92 ♠J75 ♠J52  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

What do you bid now?  
A. — Up to now, you have told your partner nothing more than that you have a minimum one spade response.